

FINAL REPORT

ON THE

SURVEY AND SETTLEMENT
OPERATIONS

IN THE

DISTRICT OF RANCHI,

1902—1910.



J. REID, I.C.S.,

Settlement Officer, Chota Nagpur.



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FINAL REPORT
ON THE
SURVEY AND SETTLEMENT OPERATIONS
IN THE
DISTRICT OF RANCHI,
1902-1910.

CHAPTER I.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DISTRICT.

1. *Name of the district*—The district of Ranchi is the largest of the five districts, which constitute the division of Chota Nagpur. It has an area of nearly 7,104 square miles and a population, according to the Census of 1901, of 1,187,925 souls.

Ranchi takes its name from a small village now called *purana* Ranchi which was one of the hamlets of which the present station was originally composed. In the earliest reference to the tract, which corresponds to the present district of Ranchi and neighbouring parganas, it is called Jharkhand, or the forest tract. From an early period, probably from the 15th or 16th century, the area corresponding to the present district and pargana Tori of Palamau district was known as Chota Nagpur. The following description, is taken from Hamilton's *Gazetteer of Hindustan* (1815):—

“*Nagpur (Chuta)*:—A district in the southern extremity of the Behar Province situated principally between the 22nd and 23rd degrees of north latitude. To the north it is bounded by Ramgarh and Palamau; to the south by the independent district of Gangpur; to the east it has Ramgarh and Singhbhum; and to the west Palamau and Jashpur. The ancient Hindu province of Gundwana borders this district on the southern, eastern, and western quarters; and the district was probably one of the latest conquests effected by the Muhammadans in this part of Hindustan. A very great proportion of the inhabitants are consequently of the old Hindu persuasion.

The surface of the country is hilly, but not mountainous, and generally much covered with jungle. Under the Moghul Government it was long a frontier Government, but partially subdued and occupied by native zamindars, who were little interfered with so long as they paid the revenue stipulated. It still continues one of the wildest and least cultivated of the Company's districts, and from its want of inland navigation will probably never be a country of much export. Like other hilly districts, Chota Nagpur contains the sources of many streams, but they attain to no magnitude until they quit its limits. The soil is in many parts highly impregnated with iron, which might be procured in considerable quantities, but can be imported from Europe at so moderate an expense, that its production here is no object. This district is distinguished by the term *chuta* (little), to distinguish it from the other Nagpur possessed by the Bhonslah Mahratta family. The name Nagpur indicated that in the opinion of the natives the territory contains diamonds.”

It is probable that the explanation given of the appellation Chutia or Chuta is not correct. The village Chutia, which is situated near the present headquarters of the district, is reputed to be the seat of the original residence of the Nagbansi Rajas. It was at one time a place of considerable importance, and it seems likely that the name of the principal town Chutia was added to the name of the tract, to distinguish it from the more important

Nagpur of the Bhonslah Rajas. The name Chutia in course of time was corrupted into Chota, from a mistaken idea of its original meaning.

When the South-West Frontier Agency was established in 1834, the headquarters of the Chota Nagpur district and the area corresponding to the present district of Palamau was established at Lohardaga, and the district consequently came to be known as Lohardaga. In 1892, Palamau with pargana Tori was formed into a separate district, and in 1899 the name of the remaining portion of the district of Lohardaga was changed to Ranchi. From about 1854, the whole division came to be known as Chota Nagpur.

2. *The South-West Frontier Agency.*—The present district of Ranchi was included in the South-West Frontier Agency which was established in 1834 with headquarters at Kishanpur, a village at present included within the limits of the town of Ranchi. The headquarters of Lohardaga district was transferred to Kishanpur in 1842, and in 1854 the head of the Agency, who was then known as the Agent to the Governor-General, became the Commissioner of the Chota Nagpur division. From that date, the division has been administered as a non-regulation province with Ranchi as its headquarters, under the control of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.

3. *Subdivisions thanas, and outposts.*—Such information as is available regarding the early history of the district and the development of the administration will be found in Chapter III. The district is at present divided into three subdivisions with 18 thanas distributed as follows:—

Subdivision.	NAME OF THANA.	Name of outpost included within thana (if any).	No. of villages.	Area in square miles.	Total area of thana in square miles.
Khunti	Karra	.....	178	....	199.29
	Khunti	.....	300	338.47	614.86
	Sonahatu	Torpa	162	276.39	
	Tamar	.....	101	...	145.80
	Tamar	Bundu	296	482.12	585.30
Gumla	Ghaghra	.....	90	103.18	
	Chainpur	Bishunpur	120	206.91	443.63
	Gumla	.....	67	236.72	
	Sisai	.....	200	...	406.54
	Palkot	.....	113	208.47	406.70
	Kurdeg	Raidih	61	198.23	
	Koohodega	.....	157	...	281.43
	Kolebira	.....	73	...	222.55
	Basia	.....	72	...	309.11
	Ranohi	.....	157	...	530.10
Sadar	Ranohi	Bano	132	396.49	608.67
	Silli	.....	93	212.18	
	Lohardaga	.....	162	...	295.65
	Lohardaga	Angara	343	449.97	711.57
	Lohardaga	Ormanjhi	94	173.65	
	Lohardaga	.....	91	87.95	123.29
	Lohardaga	.....	111	...	
	Lohardaga	Bero	278	475.69	726.10
	Lohardaga	Kuru	114	152.02	
Sadar	Lohardaga	.....	76	98.39	116.96
	Lohardaga	.....	79	...	
	Lohardaga	Burmu	136	199.88	376.04
	Lohardaga	.....	98	176.16	

The total area of the Gumla, Khunti, and Sadar subdivisions is, therefore 3,504.38, 1,545.25, and 2,053.96 square miles, respectively. The total area of the district is 7,103.59 square miles. Under notification No. 441 J., dated the 10th January, 1905, all police outposts in the district were declared to be police-stations under section 4, clause (s), of the Code of Criminal Procedure. Torpa, Bundu, Bishunpur, Raidih, Bano, Angara, Ormanjhi, Bero, Kuru and Burmu are, therefore, police-stations within the meaning of the Criminal Procedure Code. They are not thanas; but, for convenience in record writing, they have been treated as thana units for the purpose of

the settlement records, and the thana map and indices have been prepared accordingly.

4. *Topography*.—The district is bounded on the north by Hazaribagh and Palamau, on the south by Gangpur State and Singhbhum, on the east by Manbhum, and on the west by Palamau, Surguja and Jashpur States. It lies between 22° 21' and 23° 41' north latitude and 84° 3' and 85° 67' east longitude. The district may be conveniently divided into three plateaus. The first and highest plateau comprises the north-western portion and corresponds roughly to the area included in thanas Chainpur, Bishunpur outpost, and west and north Lohardaga. The average level throughout this area exceeds 2,500 feet above sea level. The second or central plateau comprising the greater part of the district includes nearly the whole of Gumla subdivision, except the portion included in the first plateau, nearly the whole of the Sadar subdivision, and the western portion of Khunti subdivision. The average level is about 2,000 feet. The third and lowest plateau lies in the extreme eastern and southern borders, where the average level drops to about 1,000 feet. The district is studded with ranges of low mountains or isolated hills, most of which are covered with a fair growth of timber. The most hilly and inaccessible parts of the districts are north and west Lohardaga and north Burmu, and the highest hill peak is Saru, which is situated at a distance of about 20 miles west of the town of Lohardaga. It runs to a height of 3,607 feet above sea level. The summits of the hills are in many places cleared so as to be fit for cultivation. These cleared areas are called "pats". There are many of these "pats" in the north-western portion of the district, which constitute smaller local plateaus several square miles in area about 3,500 above sea level. They are sparsely inhabited and poorly cultivated, but the climate is equable all the year round.

5. *Soils*.—The village lands are divided into two classes, viz., *don* and *tanr*. The *don* lands are the terraced low lands on which rice only is grown. The *tanr* are the uplands which produce coarse rice and various *rabi* crops. The words most commonly in use in the Khunti subdivision corresponding to *don* and *tanr* are *loyong* and *piri*.

The low lands occupy the hollows intervening between the continuous ridges of uplands. Those lands which lie at the bottom of the depression are known as *garha*, and those which are higher up are called *chaura*. In the five parganas and other parts of the Khunti subdivision, the *garha* and *chaura don* fields are sometimes known as *bahal* and *bad* lands, respectively. The relative values of the lands almost entirely depend on their position. The best rice lands are those which lie at the bottom of the depression. They suffer less from the effects of drought than any other classes, and they produce a finer rice. They are, of course, more liable to inundation; but, excessive flooding of the fields is very uncommon in Ranchi district. The *don* lands have been divided into four classes in the Settlement records, viz.,

Don I.—Land which is continually wet and grows both the ordinary winter rice crop and a summer rice crop known as *tewa*.

Don II.—Land which grows the winter crop, which is usually cut in Aghan.

Don III.—Land which grows the winter rice crop, which is usually cut in Kartik.

Don IV.—Land which grows the winter rice crop, which is cut in Bhado and Aswin.

The first two classes include the lowest fields, the third class includes the middle terraces, and the fourth class the highest fields, which approximate to the *tanr* class.

Only terraced fields have been classed as *don*. The period of harvesting is not an absolutely correct test of the class of lands. But, experience has shown that it is the safest guide to a correct classification, and that the kinds of *dhan* which are known as *aghami*, *kartika* and *bhadoi* are sown respectively in the fields, which correspond to *don II*, *don III* and *don IV* of the settlement records. It sometimes happens, however, that the rice crop, which grows on the highest terraces, is not harvested before *Kartik*. A person, who has experience in classification, will in this case have no difficulty in classifying correctly, after viewing the fields.

The area of land in the district, which produces two crops of rice, is very small. The total recorded area of *don* I amounts to only 760 acres (1·18 square miles), of which 330, 87, and 79 acres are situated in thanas Khunti, Tamar, and outpost Angara, respectively.

For all practical purposes, the class, which has been recorded as *don* II, may be regarded as the first-class rice land of the district. The classes *don* III and IV may, therefore, be regarded as the second and third class rice lands, respectively.

The uplands have been recorded in three classes, viz.,—

Tanr I.—Land consisting of fertile upland fields lying in or near the village, which receive considerable quantities of manure and produce crops every year. The fields are generally enclosed.

Tanr II.—Land which is more remote from the village site, and which is comparatively level and free from stones, with some depth of soil.

Tanr III.—Land which is usually remote from the village site and is sloping or very stony, with little depth of soil and little or no capacity to retain moisture.

The factors, which represent the respective values of these different classes, are approximately as follows :—

				Factor.
<i>Don</i> II	...	...	...	19
<i>Don</i> III	...	...	...	15
<i>Don</i> IV	...	...	...	9
<i>Tanr</i> I	...	...	...	8
<i>Tanr</i> II	...	...	...	4
<i>Tanr</i> III	...	...	...	2

I omit *don* I, as the class is comparatively insignificant. It should also be noted that the relative values of *tanr* lands vary in different parts of the district. For instance, the value of *tanr* lands in thanas Ranchi or Mandar is at least twice as great as that of the *tanr* lands which are situated in thanas Chainpur or Kurdeg. The former are cultivated regularly every year, and yield valuable crops. The soil of the latter is much poorer. The cultivation is sporadic, and the yield uncertain. In the more remote and jungly areas, *tanr* lands are cultivated frequently only once in every two or even three years. As cultivation becomes more intense and the lands are more liberally manured and better cultivated, this class of *tanr* will, no doubt, greatly improve. The factors given above represent the values of the class of *tanr* lands, which are to be found in such thanas as Gumla.

6. *Poverty of the soil.*—The soil is generally poor in quality and suffers from a deficiency in organic matter. The system of cultivation is primitive, and manuring is not practised to a sufficient extent. It is not, therefore, surprising that the general production of the soil is not more than half the average which prevails in the districts of Behar and Bengal. From the early days of the British conquest, it was recognized that the district was infertile and, therefore, of very inconsiderable value, as the following reference taken from the supplement to the Historical and Comparative Analysis of the Finances of Bengal, written by Mr. Grant in 1787, will show :—

"The area is also sometimes generally described under the appellation of Khukra, more commonly called Nagpur, from the diamond mines of that place, as giving most importance to the whole country making part of the same mountainous tract of land, barren in almost everything, except the most precious jewels in the world."

The jewels referred to are, no doubt, the diamonds, which, according to popular rumour, were found in large quantities in the bed of the river Sankh.

7. *Rainfall.*—There is very little artificial irrigation in the district. Some of the zamindars construct occasionally tanks and *bandhs* for the irrigation of their own khas (*manjhihas* or *zirat*) lands. The raiyats' lands sometimes derive benefit from these reservoirs; but the great bulk of the cultivation is entirely dependent for its prosperity on the rainfall. The country is almost everywhere intersected by rivers and numerous streams; but hardly any attempts are made by either the landlords or the raiyats to utilize the waters

for irrigating the crops. Much, no doubt, could be done in this respect by the judicious expenditure of capital. Under present conditions, a serious failure of the rains means famine throughout large parts of the district, and a partial failure causes scarcity and distress. The water drains away from the uplands (*tanr*) and even the higher low lands (*don*) with great rapidity; and, unless the crops growing on these lands receive a plentiful and continuous supply of rainfall, they wither and die very quickly. Owing to this fact, the villages in the more jungly areas, where the land has been cleared at comparatively more recent dates and the villagers are dependent for their food-supply on the *gora* rice grown on the uplands and higher low lands (*don*), are more liable to famine and scarcity than the villages in the more intensely cultivated areas, where there are valuable stretches (*dohars*) of low-lying rice fields, many of which are moist throughout the year. In scarce years, famine areas will be generally found to correspond with the areas in which the greatest proportion of the classes of land known as *don III* and *don IV* of the settlement record are to be found, with a high proportion of *tanr* lands. The main crop is the autumn and winter rice, which covers about one-third of the total cultivated area. The *rabi* crops are of little importance and can never be relied on as affording even a partial substitute for the main crop of the year. In such circumstances the importance of a seasonable rainfall cannot be overestimated.

The annual rainfall for the last ten years at different stations throughout the district is given below:—

YEAR.	TOTAL RAINFALL IN INCHES AT—						
	Lohar-daga.	Ranchi.	Palkot.	Tamar.	Gumla.	Kurdeg.	Average.
1900 ...	55.58	60.40	77.36	67.69	...	...	66.00
1901 ...	54.77	54.87	66.55	50.79	...	49.26	55.24
1902 ...	42.94	48.06	50.47	37.60	...	45.88	44.99
1903 ...	59.50	49.42	62.76	40.30	52.59	...	52.91
1904 ...	73.00	63.64	49.15	64.43	51.16	74.97	62.72
1905 ...	43.66	49.77	43.82	52.81	46.35	50.97	47.89
1906 ...	50.48	61.63	74.06	60.31	70.17	71.33	64.66
1907 ...	58.32	62.56	62.09	42.88	59.22	83.47	61.42
1908 ...	34.27	55.21	83.20	33.28	48.31	57.25	51.92
1909 ...	58.16	57.65	58.12	50.67	58.45	99.13	63.69
Average of ten years...	53.36	56.32	62.75	50.07	55.17	66.53	57.15

The normal rainfall for the district month by month, as stated by the Meteorological Reporter to the Government of Bengal, is as follows:—

January	...	...	...	62
February	...	...	...	74
March	...	...	...	1.15
April	...	...	...	50
May	...	...	...	2.81
June	...	...	...	8.11
July	...	...	...	13.63
August	...	...	...	13.67
September	...	...	...	8.76
October	...	...	...	2.42
November	...	...	...	42
December	...	...	...	23
Total	...	...	...	53.06

The prosperity of the crops depends, however, more on the seasonable distribution of the rainfall month by month than on its actual amount during

the year. For instance, in the year 1899, the prospects were favourable to the end of July. In the following three months, the total rainfall was 15 inches in defect of the normal. In the critical months of September and October, the rainfall was only 2·58 and ·27 inches. The result was that the winter rice crop, the mainstay of the district, withered every where except in the lowest lands (*don* II of the Settlement records). In 1904, the rainfall was considerably above normal; but the cessation of the rains at the critical period caused the final result to be a short crop.

There was scarcity, if not famine, throughout great parts of the district in the years 1896, 1897, 1900, and again in 1908. The cause was in all cases the same, viz., the early cessation of the rains. In 1907, the total rainfall was above normal; but it was very badly distributed. The month of August and the beginning of September were abnormally wet; but, after the 9th of the latter month, practically no rain fell in the district.

The result of a signal failure of the rains or a great deficiency in the rainfall in September and October has always been the loss of the greater part of the autumn and winter rice crop. The outturn of rice for any of the years mentioned above can hardly have exceeded eight annas for the whole district. The jungle areas, where the proportion of first and second class *don* lands is smallest, suffer most in such conditions; and, it will consequently be generally found that the areas, which require most careful watching, when conditions of scarcity begin to prevail, are thanas Bishunpur, Chainpur, Raidih, Kurdeg and Kochedega and the part of Ghaghra, which adjoins Bishunpur. Bishunpur is probably the area which is least able to resist conditions of scarcity.

Under the conditions described above, recurrent periods of famine or scarcity must be fairly frequent in large areas throughout the district, until the zamindars and cultivators develop a system of artificial irrigation on a considerable scale. Much can be done by the erection of *bandhs* and tanks. Labour is plentiful and cheap; and, it only requires some enterprise on the part of the landlords and raiyats to save their villages from these constantly recurring periods of stress. In the year 1908, when famine conditions prevailed in parts of Ranchi district, there was no scarcity in Dhalbhum pargana in Singhbhum district. The conditions were exactly similar. The cultivators are in both areas for the most part aborigines, and the class of soil and the kind of cultivation are also the same. In Dhalbhum, however, the villagers, in concert with the headmen, have erected tanks and *bandhs* in every other village for irrigation purposes. They also dam the smaller rivers and streams, and distribute the waters by a sort of local co-operation to the villages lying along the banks. They are not, therefore, entirely dependent on the rainfall, and can, therefore, resist periods of scarcity, which play havoc with the people in Ranchi.

8. *The Chota Nagpur estate.*—The whole district of Ranchi is included in the revenue-paying estate of the Maharaja of Chota Nagpur, except the following villages, which appertain to the Padma Raj estate and the Kashipur estate respectively :—

Estate.	Thana or outpost.	Names of villages.	Area in square miles.
Padma ...	Silli ...	Doaru, Bansia, Soso, Tilinisiring, Ladhup, Dhanamunjhi, Basantpur, Badalu, Pogra, Rangamati, Gorha, Murhu, Ghaghra, Panchu, and Tunku.	21·98
Ditto ...	Angara ...	Koinardih and Nichintpur ...	3·73
Ditto ...	Ormanjhi ...	Chakla, Chutupalu, Ormanjhi and Halbadi ...	6·35
Ditto ...	Ranchi ...	Neuri, Oyana and Getlatu ...	2·91
Kashipur ...	Silli ...	Chotachangru, Borachangru, Aral, Nawadih, Patrahatu, Kariadih and Bantahajam.	18·43

Deducting 34·97 square miles, which appertain to the Padma estate, and 18·43 square miles, which appertain to the Kashipur estate, the total area of the

Chota Nagpur estate in Ranchi district is 7,050·19 square miles. The area of the whole estate, including pargana Tori of Palamau district, the approximate area of which is 660 square miles, is 7,710·19 square miles.

COMMUNICATIONS.

9. *Railways*.—There is at present only one railway in the district, viz., the narrow gauge line, which runs from Purulia to Ranchi and which was opened on the 14th November, 1907.

10. *Telegraphs*.—In addition to the railway telegraph system, there are telegraph offices at Ranchi, Ranchi Cantonment, Ratu, Lohardaga and Gumla. The number of messages sent from, and received at, the Ranchi office during the year 1909-10 was 11,063 and 10,951, respectively.

11. *Post Offices*.—There are 10 sub-post-offices and 23 branch post-offices in the district located as below:—

Sub-offices.

- | | |
|---------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Basia. | 6. Lower Bazar (Ranchi). |
| 2. Gumla. | 7. Ranchi Cantonment (Doranda), |
| 3. Khunti. | 8. Ratu. |
| 4. Kuru. | 9. Silli. |
| 5. Lohardaga. | 10. Upper Bazar (Ranchi). |

Branch-offices.

- | | | |
|---------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 1. Angara. | 9. Jariagarh. | 17. Palkot. |
| 2. Bero. | 10. Karra. | 18. Rahe. |
| 3. Biru. | 11. Kinkel. | 19. Sisai. |
| 4. Bharno. | 12. Kolebira. | 20. Tamar. |
| 5. Bundu. | 13. Mandar. | 21. Tatisilwai. |
| 6. Chainpur. | 14. Masmano. | 22. Torpa. |
| 7. Choreo. | 15. Murhu. | 23. Toto. |
| 8. Getelsudh. | 16. Palandu. | |

12. *Markets*.—The most important markets in the district are those of Ranchi, Gumla, Bundu, Lohardaga and Palkot. There are numerous small weekly markets all over the district; but they are mainly of local importance only.

13. *Roads*.—Excluding roads under the management of Ranchi and Lohardaga Municipalities, there are 1,029 miles of roads of all kinds in the district or a little more than one-seventh of a mile to every square mile of superficial area. The description and other particulars are given in the annexed statement:—

Number of Class.	Description of Class.	Mileage under Public Works Department.	Mileage under District Board.	Total mileage.
IB	Metalled, partially bridged and drained.	106	2	108
IIA	Unmetalled, bridged, drained, and mostly gravelled.	37	59	96
IIB	Unmetalled, partially bridged, drained and mostly gravelled.	...	18	18
IV	Unmetalled, partially bridged and drained, banked, but not surfaced, about one-fourth gravelled.	...	349	349
	Others, including village roads	...	458	458
	Total	143	886	1,029

14. Expenditure by District Board on roads.—The total amount expended during the last financial year by the District Board on repair and upkeep of roads amounted to Rs. 26,669 only, or an average of Rs. 26 per linear mile.

The average expenditure on roads classed as IIA and IIB was Rs. 53 per mile.

The cost of original work amounted to Rs. 37,148. The average annual expenditure on repairs and upkeep for the last ten years was Rs. 27,185; and the average annual expenditure on original works was Rs. 23,202.

15. Quality of the roads.—With the exception of the Ranchi-Purulia, Ranchi-Hazaribagh and Ranchi-Chaibassa roads, which are in the charge of the Public Works Department, the quality of the roads throughout the district is poor. The so-called gravel, which is spread over the more important District Board roads, consists mostly of clay, with the result that, during the rains, those roads, on which there is considerable heavy traffic, become almost impassable. In addition, though considerable progress has been made in this respect during recent years, several important streams and rivers are unbridged. Numerous small contracts are given to contractors for the repair of village roads in remote parts of the district under conditions which render close supervision from headquarters impossible, with the result that the repairs are often scamped. Until considerable powers of control are delegated to the sub-divisional Magistrates, it is useless to hope for any improvement in this respect.

CHAPTER II.

POPULATION.

16. The earliest attempt at making a census of the population of the district, of which I can find any record, was made by Captain Depree during the topographical survey in the year 1868. The estimate was, however, a very rough one. It was found that there were 139,116 houses in the whole of Lohardaga, as the district was then named. It was assumed, as the result of experiments made in the case of 128 houses, that the average number of inhabitants of a house was 6.34, and the total population was deduced from these data. On this basis, the population of the district of Lohardaga as then defined was found to be 1,412,956, which gives a density of nearly 124 to the square mile. The area of district Lohardaga, which then included parganas Tori and Palamau, which are now included in Palamau district, was 11,404 square miles. Assuming that the same degree of density of population prevailed throughout the whole area, the population of the district of Ranchi as at present defined must have been approximately 880,834. In the year 1869, an experimental enumeration was made through the agency of the rural police, and the population of the Lohardaga district was ascertained to be 1,393,707. In the census of 1872, the population of the district, which was then 12,044 square miles in extent, was found to be 1,237,123, which gives an incidence of only 103 persons to the square mile. Assuming the density of the population to have been the same throughout the whole area, the population of the district of Ranchi, as now defined, must have been only 731,660 at that date. There has been no doubt an enormous increase in the cultivated area since 1872, and the capacity of the district to carry nowadays a much larger population than in 1872 is undoubted. The figures for 1872 appear, however, to be much too low. The variations in the population since 1872 are discussed below.

17. The Census of 1901.—The figures given below are taken from the census tables of the census of 1901. I have not attempted to show the distribution according to thanas, as there have been changes in several of the thana jurisdictions before and since 1891, and the figures would consequently be incorrect or misleading. I find also that the thana areas given in the census tables are in several cases so incorrect as to vitiate seriously the correctness of the returns with regard to the density of the population per thana unit. When the Khunti subdivision was established in 1905, important changes

were made in thana jurisdictions, so that it is impossible to give with any degree of accuracy the statistics of population for that subdivision. The figures for Gumla subdivision are, however, available :—

Population in 1901.

SUBDIVISION.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Number of persons per square mile.	Number of persons per house.
Gumla ...	213,929	220,760	434,689	124	5·4
Sadar and Khunti sub-divisions ..	363,251	389,985	753,236	209	5·2
District total ..	577,180	610,745	1,187,925	167	5·3

18. *Variations since 1872.*—The increases in the population in the 10 years, 1881—1891 was 6·7 per cent., in the 10 years 1891—1901, 5·22 per cent., and in the years 1872—1881, 30 per cent. The total increase for the thirty years 1872—1901 amounted to 46 per cent. The correctness of the figures for 1872 is, however, open to serious doubt. It is difficult to ascertain with any degree of accuracy the variations in individual thanas, owing to the numerous alterations in thana boundaries and changes in jurisdiction, which were made within the period under review. According to the last census report, the apparent increase in population in Kalebira, Basia, and Bano combined, during the last decade, works out at over 23 per cent., while the increase in Kurdeg was over 22 per cent. The Census Commissioner is inclined to attribute the large apparent increase to alterations in thana jurisdictions made since 1891 and to the fact that the corrections made in the Census figures for that year were in some cases rough estimates, based on the assumption that the density of the population was uniform throughout the thanas affected. This explanation can hardly account for the enormous increases above referred to; and it appears to be much more likely that the Census figures of 1891 were incorrect. The difficulties of obtaining efficient enumerators in the jungle areas of the district is well known. Before the spread of Christianity in these remote areas, it was almost impossible to obtain a sufficiently large number of literate enumerators, and the enumeration must in any case have been to some extent haphazard. I am, therefore, of opinion that the large increases in these areas was more apparent than real. The only thanas, which showed in 1901 more than a nominal decrease, were Toto (now included in Ghaghra and Gumla), Sisai and Karra. These areas suffered severely in the famines of 1897 and 1900, and so furnished a specially large quota of emigrants to Assam and the Duars.

19. *Density of the population.*—From a careful study of the figures, I am of opinion that the census statistics were only approximate until the year 1901, when a high degree of accuracy was attained. The most sparsely populated areas in the district are thanas Kurdeg, Kochedega and Chainpur, with an incidence of 86·99 and 104 persons to the square mile. The most densely populated area in the district is Ranchi thana, with an incidence of 283 persons per square mile. The figures are taken from table No. 1 of the census returns of 1901; but, owing to errors in the thana areas, they are only approximately correct.

20. *Emigration.*—The table given below shows the emigration from the district in the year 1901 :—

Persons born in Ranchi district but enumerated in—

Contiguous districts in province.	Other parts of province.	Outside province.	TOTAL.
54,476	121,222	99,553	275,251

The total migration per every 10,000 of the population to and from the district was as follows:—

IMMIGRANTS PER 10,000 OF THE POPULATION.		EMIGRANTS PER 10,000 OF THE POPULATION TO—	
From contiguous districts.	From other places.	Contiguous districts.	Other places.
157	112	459	1,858

The net loss by emigration from the district was, it appears, more than twice as great as in any other district of the province with the exception of Bankura, where the net loss amounted to 1,048 persons per every 10,000 of the population. Mr. Gait, the Superintendent of the Census of 1901, writes:—“The balance of emigration was heavily against the district in 1891, and it is still more so at the present census. Emigrants now outnumber immigrants by 243,195, compared with 220,517 ten years ago. Assuming all these to be permanent emigrants and assuming also that the volume of emigration was the same in each year and that the annual death-rate was 40 per 1,000, these figures indicate a net loss to the district during the decade of about 116,000 persons. After allowing for temporary migrants and for the excessive emigration of 1897 and 1900, it would still seem that the true increase in the population must have been about 13 per cent. instead of 5·2 per cent. which is the actual variation in the number of persons enumerated in the district.” The vast majority of the emigrants belong to the aboriginal races—Mundas, Uraons, and Kharias. These tribes are more prolific than any other race in Bengal, and, notwithstanding the constant stream of emigration, the increase in the population—assuming that the earlier census figures are approximately correct—has been 46 per cent., in the thirty years 1872–1901, as against an average of nearly 26 per cent. for the province, including East Bengal. Emigration may, therefore, be regarded as the natural outlet for the excess population which the district is unable to carry at present.

It is sometimes said that the aborigines have no strong ties to bind them to their homes, and that this explains the apparent ease with which they emigrate. This view seems to me to be incorrect. Both the Mundas and Uraons possess a very deep attachment for their homes and fields in this district; especially, as is often the case, if they are the pioneers or descendants of the pioneers, who cleared the lands, which they cultivate. The pride with which a Munda or Uraon tells one that he is a descendant of the original founders of the village (a *bhuinhar* or *khuntkattidar*) is unmistakable. The aborigines in fact cling with remarkable tenacity to their homes and fields. It is not uncommon to find that a Munda or an Uraon will persist in cultivating the ancestral fields long after he has been ejected from them by the Courts, and I have known numerous cases in which individual aborigines underwent imprisonment five or six times for persisting in their attempts to get back the ancestral lands. Large numbers of those who emigrate to Assam and the Duars return, if they are able to save a little money, and buy back the farms which they had lost, or some land in the vicinity. This, in fact, is often the object with which they emigrate.

Only the severest economic pressure will drive the aboriginal from his native wilds. The causes are not far to seek. The soil of the district is on the whole extremely poor and infertile. The methods of cultivation practised are primitive and antiquated. The needs of the Munda and Uraon are few; but, he is not industrious, and is generally heedless of the morrow. He spends whatever little savings he may have in the local liquor shop, and, whenever a period of stress occurs, he has no margin to fall back upon. It is true that new areas are being constantly cleared and opened up, and that the available food-supply is being constantly increased. The increase in cultivation does not, however, keep pace with the increase in

the population. The primitive aboriginal does not care to cultivate more than is necessary for his own immediate needs; nor does he make provision for bad seasons by increasing the area under cultivation and thereby making up the deficiency in outturn, even if lands are available.

With a rapidly expanding population, an uneconomic system of cultivation, and a population, the majority of whom are the reverse of thrifty, it is not surprising that the district supplies such a large quota of workers to the tea-gardens of Assam, the Duars, and the coal fields of Manbhum. A considerable percentage of the emigration is, however, periodic and non-permanent. The Uraons especially emigrate in large numbers to Calcutta and the tea-gardens of the Duars during the cold weather, when there is little or no work to do in their fields, and return before the monsoon breaks to begin the cultivation of their fields.

A secondary cause of the emigration has been the agrarian strife. When an aboriginal comes to the civil or criminal Courts, he is literally despoiled, unless he happens to be a Christian. I have known many cultivators pay Rs. 40 or Rs. 50 for a copy of a map or a judgment the real cost of which was about 2 or 3 rupees, and the fees paid to the numerous touts, who hover about the vicinity of the Courts, are on a similarly lavish scale. There are besides the usual Pleaders' and Mukhtears' fees. Litigation is, therefore, always ruinous to the aboriginal, whether he finally wins or loses his case. He is obliged to borrow heavily and to mortgage his lands. The immediate result is that at least one member, if not the whole family, is obliged to emigrate to retrieve the family fortunes. The Courts themselves are not always free from blame. It is not sufficiently realized always that every postponement means increased cost and trouble to the litigants, and that the interests of struggling Mukhtears and Revenue Agents do not always coincide with those of the parties whom they represent. Eight years ago, there were no subdivisions in the district, and the distances of the more remote thanas from headquarters were enormous. The extreme limits of Kurdeg thana, for instance, are about 150 miles from Ranchi. When I was stationed as Subdivisional Officer at Gumla, one case came prominently before me, in which the adjournments were so numerous that the raiyat complainant had travelled a greater distance, in various journeyings from the most remote part of Kurdeg to Ranchi, than the distance between Liverpool and New York. The subject of dispute was 4 or 5 acres of land, the total value of which did not exceed Rs. 50 or 60.

The agrarian troubles have now subsided, and prolonged and expensive litigation about lands is on the wane. It is to be hoped that, as a result of the Settlement operations, this state of affairs will be permanent, and that one cause of emigration has been thus removed.

21. *Proportion of males and females*.—In the year 1901, there was an excess of 66,485 females over males. The district, therefore, contains 105 females to every 100 males. The females preponderate in every thana except Kurdeg. The causes are obscure, but a partial explanation is to be found in the fact that the majority of the emigrants from the district are males. A similar explanation accounts for the preponderance of males in Kurdeg. This thana is the most sparsely populated in the district, and cultivators in search of lands emigrate there in considerable numbers from the more intensely cultivated areas. The great majority of such emigrants are necessarily males.

22. *Religions*.—The table given below shows the distribution of the inhabitants according to religions :—

Hindus.	Musalmans.	Christians.	Animists.
471,540	41,972	124,958	546,415

The Animists are, therefore, 45·93 per cent. of the population, the Hindus 40·03 per cent., the Christians 10·51 per cent., and the Mohamedans 3·53 per cent. During the decade (1891–1901), the increase in the Hindu population was over 6 per cent. The Mohamedans increased by 16 per cent., and the Christians by over 65 per cent. during the same period. The number of Animists declined by over 4 per cent.

23. Occupations.—According to the census figures of 1901, the population of the district of Ranchi was distributed as follows:—

Occupation.	Number.	Percentage to total.
Pasture and agriculture ...	960,396	80·84
Other occupations ...	227,489	19·16

24. The agricultural population.—In the table given above, the statistics of persons employed in agriculture and pasture include landholders and tenants, agricultural labourers, persons employed in stock-breeding and dealing, in the training and care of animals, in agricultural training and supervision, and forests, and the growers of special products.

The agricultural population may be conveniently distributed under the following heads:—

SUBDIVISIONS.	Total number.	Percentage to total population.
Rent-payers ...	885,073	74·51
Rent-receivers ...	13,721	1·15
Labourers ...	36,114	3·04
Miscellaneous ...	25,488	2·14

The rent-payers are of course the great body of raiyats, who live by cultivation pure and simple.

25. The non-agricultural population.—The non-agricultural population are distributed as follows:—

	Number.	Percentage.
Earthwork and general labourers ...	47,032	3·96
Persons employed in making textile fabrics and dress, cotton weavers, etc.	42,135	3·55
Purveyors of food, drink and stimulants	33,794	2·85
Persons employed in personal, domestic, household, or sanitary services ...	18,338	1·54
Earthen and stoneware workers ...	12,589	1·06
Makers of agricultural implements, tools, etc. ...	12,299	1·02
Cane and mat-workers, etc. ...	8,330	·70
Employees in the service of the State and Municipal and local bodies ...	5,183	·44
Village servants, village watchmen, etc.	4,076	·34
Bankers and money-lenders ...	3,936	·33
Persons engaged in the leather, horn, and bone trade ...	3,430	·29
Purveyors of light, firing and forage ...	2,313	·19
Miscellaneous ...	34,084	2·86
Total non-agricultural population ...	227,489	

There are two Municipalities within the district, viz., Ranchi with a population of 25,970 and Lohardaga with a population of 6,123. The next largest towns are Bundu and Palkot, with populations of 5,469 and 3,246, respectively. The pursuits of the majority of the inhabitants of these towns are non-agricultural.

26. Aboriginal population.—The most important of the aboriginal races in the district are the Uraons, the Mundas and the Kharias. The statistics for the district, according to the census of 1901, are as follows:—

Name of race or tribe.	Number.	Percentage to the total population.
Uraons ...	279,235	23·51
Mundas ...	236,600	19·91
Kharias ...	40,737	3·43
Asurs ...	2,701	·23
Korwas ...	1,551	·13
Gonds ...	7,007	·59
Binjhias ...	3,902	·33
Kaurs ...	1,886	·15
Birhors ...	586	·05
Total ...	574,205	48·38

In addition to those mentioned in the list, there are numerous castes, which, if not purely aboriginal in origin, are closely allied to the aborigines. Of these the Bhuiyas number 14,034, the Rautias 20,301, and the Kurmis 48,617.

27. *Literacy*.—In the year 1901, the number of literates in the district was 54 per 1,000, or 5·4 per cent. only. The percentage of literacy among females was only ·2 per cent. The test of literacy applied by the Census authorities was the ability to read and write. People of whatever age, who could do this, were entered as literate, and those who were unable to do so as illiterate. As might be expected, the percentage of literates among the Christian population is comparatively high. For instance, the percentage of literates among the Christian Mundas and Uraons, the vast majority of whom reside in Ranchi district, is 6·8 and 4·1 respectively, as against ·7 and ·4 for the non-Christian Mundas and Uraons. The improvement among the Christians is, of course, due to the efforts of the missionaries.

CHAPTER III.

A SKETCH OF THE HISTORY OF THE DISTRICT.

REVENUE HISTORY.—DEVELOPMENT OF THE ADMINISTRATION.

28. *Early history*.—The early history of the district, as indeed of the whole of Chota Nagpur, is involved in obscurity. All that is certain is that the aboriginal tribes, the Mundas, the Uraons, and the Kharias penetrated the country at a date, which cannot now be fixed with any degree of precision, and reclaimed it from virgin forest. In the earliest reference to the province of Chota Nagpur, it is called Jharkhand or the forest tract. There is a tradition among the inhabitants of Lohardaga thana that the aborigines first entered the district through the Saharghatia pass in the north-west of the district. This tradition is probably correct. There is no doubt that the Mundas were the first comers. They have left numerous traces of their early settlements in the north-west, where it is not uncommon to find in many villages, now inhabited solely by the Uraons, the remains of Munda burial-grounds (*sasandiris*), which prove, beyond doubt, that the Mundas were the original reclaimers of the soil. I have frequently heard zamindars in this part of the country argue that the claims of the Uraons to be the pioneers or *khunkattidars* are entirely unfounded, as it is well known that the Mundas first came and reclaimed the jungle. If this contention is correct, it seems to be likely that the Mundas came originally from the west, and not from the east or north-east as is sometimes supposed. They have left traces of their advance from the west all over the district in the *sasandaris*, the remains of which are still to be found in the line of their supposed advance towards their present settlements in the Munda country in the east and south-east of the district. It seems to be extremely unlikely that these burial-grounds are the relics of an advance from the east. If this were so, it is difficult to explain the subsequent retreat which must have taken place, and the view is entirely opposed to the traditions of the people, who inhabit these regions.

At a very early period, possibly in the tenth century of the Christian era, the ancestors of the present Maharaja of Chota Nagpur appear to have established themselves as Chiefs of the primitive Munda tribes, who then inhabited the country. The Uraons, who arrived in the country at some period considerably later than the Mundas, appear to have acquiesced in the rule of these Chiefs, and the two communities lived side by side in great harmony.

In the organization of the primitive Munda community, the whole country was divided into *parhas* consisting of from 15 to 20 villages each, over which a Chief presided. It is probable that these Chiefs elected of their own free will the Khukhra Chief (the present Maharaja's ancestor) as their feudal superior. Possibly, he succeeded in imposing his supremacy on them. Whatever may have been the course of events, it is certain that the original Chief of Chota Nagpur was a Munda. As the family prospered,

they intermixed with the Rajput families of Pachete and Singhbhum and eventually with others, so that at the present day they are regarded as high caste Rajputs, as good as any in India. When the family joined the Hindu community, it became a great object of the Chiefs to induce other Hindus to come and settle in the country; and they succeeded in inducing numbers of Rajputs, Brahmins, Baraiks and others to settle, by making grants of villages on liberal conditions.

With their help, the Chota Nagpur Chief succeeded in maintaining his position against neighbouring Rajas, and in managing and controlling the aborigines so effectively, that the latter have in course of time been generally reduced to the status of cultivators, pure and simple. So much is this the case, that there is no part of the Ranchi district in which the aborigines have succeeded in retaining any considerable share of their proprietary rights in the soil, save a small area in the present Khunti subdivision, where the Mundari *khuntkattidars* have succeeded in retaining their ancient rights unimpaired to this day. The Mohamedan Government was always content to leave the administration of the country to the Raja, provided he remitted a small annual tribute. He was thus free to deal as he chose with his subjects. His authority was enormously augmented by the arrival of the various Hindu adventurers whom he induced to settle in the country with their dependents, and he was, therefore, in course of time strong enough to wrest the villages from the hands of the old village communities. Most of them were gradually dispossessed, and their villages given to Hindu jagirdars or resumed by the Raja himself. The next step was to impose rent on the villagers. In early times, it appears to have been the custom that the clearers of the soil were recognized as the owners. The cultivators, it is true, rendered slight services or paid a small tribute to their local Chief, and he in turn rendered service and tribute to the Raja. But of rent, in the sense in which that word is now commonly used, there was none. The state of affairs was no doubt the same as that which prevails to-day in the *khunt-katti* villages in the Munda country, where the descendants of the original clearers, who are the proprietors of the soil, pay only a small subscription of a few rupees (*chanda*) to the immediate landlord for the whole village. The Hindu jagirdars, the servants of the Raja, were naturally discontented with this state of things. They gradually imposed payments of various kinds, and demanded greatly increased services. They were more civilized and, therefore, better organized than the aborigines, most of whom were forced to comply with what they regarded as their unjust demands. The foundations of agrarian discontent and trouble were, therefore, laid throughout the district, long before the era of British dominion. An understanding of the early relations between the aborigines and their Chiefs will help to explain the claim, which was at one time persistently made by the Mundas, and has been sometimes made even by the Uraona, that Chota Nagpur proper is their "raj", and that they are not liable to pay rents for the lands, which they and their ancestors cleared, but only a small tribute to the Raja, and taxes to the paramount power.

29. *The Mohamedan period.*—In the year 1585 A.D., the Raja of Khakhra, as the Chota Nagpur Raja was then called, became a tributary of the Mohamedans. In that year, Shabaz Khan Kamba invaded and subdued the country. The subjection, however, appears to have been merely nominal. The Mohamedans occasionally raided the district, and carried off plunder and a small tribute in the shape of a few diamonds, which were found at that time in the Sankh river. In the year 1616, the Emperor Jehangir sent his Lieutenant, Ibrahim Khan, the Governor of Behar, with a large force to overrun the country and to take possession of the diamond washings, which were apparently the loadstone, which attracted the Mohamedans to these wild and inhospitable regions. Ibrahim quickly defeated and captured the Raja, Durjan Sal, and sent him to Delhi. He was subsequently sent from that place to Gwalior, where he was kept in durance for twelve years, in company with other Rajas. He was restored to his kingdom in the year 1628 having, it is said, ingratiated himself with the Emperor by his skill in testing diamonds; and, it was settled that he should pay an annual tribute of Rs. 6,000. The Raja's subsequent relations with the Mohamedans appear to have been peaceful, and he was allowed to develop his own kingdom, as he thought fit.

30. *The British period.*—The district, together with the rest of Chota Nagpur, came under British dominion in 1765, when the *dewani* of Bengal, Behar, and Orissa was ceded to the British by the Nawab. Chota Nagpur was included in Behar. No immediate steps, however, appear to have been taken to bring this portion of the province under British administration. Captain Camac appears to have been the first British officer, who penetrated the country which is now known as Chota Nagpur. This was in the year 1769. He directed his attention first to the zamindar of Kharakdiha. Palamau was reduced early in 1771, and then Nagpur and Ramgarh. The Nagpur Chief himself applied to Captain Camac for aid against Ramgarh, who was then opposed to the entry of the British; but the latter's country was easily reduced to subjection. The Nagpur territory then included the whole of the present district of Ranchi, and some disputed outlying tracts.

31. *Settlement of Revenue.*—The revenue was, it appears, at first included in that of Ramgarh, and was paid through the Ramgarh Chief. It amounted to Rs. 4,000 only. The Ramgarh Raja appears, however, to have abused the authority given him to collect it. He began to levy additional sums and to endeavour to bring the country under his influence by stationing troops in it, with the ostensible object of collecting the Government revenue. A state of feud had existed between the two potentates for some years, and in 1771, the Nagpur Raja made representations to Captain Camac, whose head-quarters was then at Chatra in Hazaribagh, with a view to the restoration of some outlying disputed tracts of territory, and to obtaining permission to pay his revenue direct to Government. The latter strongly supported the representation, and also urged the importance of securing the good will of the Raja, whose country would form a barrier against the incursions of the Mahrattas and give command of the passes into the Deccan. The Council of Patna agreed to a slight rectification of boundaries in favour of Nagpur, and in 1771 a settlement was made with the Raja, Drip Nath Sahi, direct, by which he stipulated to pay an annual revenue of Rs. 12,000, including customs and transit duties. The agreement was for a period of three years (1772-75). But, though the Raja was willing enough to enter into agreements, he was extremely remiss in making payments. Towards the end of 1773, Captain Camac was obliged to send Lieutenant Fennel with three or four companies into the country, with the object of inducing him to fulfil his obligations.

In 1774, the agreement was renewed for a further period of three years; but, the Raja stipulated to pay an increased amount, viz., Rs. 15,001, of which Rs. 12,001 were revenue and Rs. 3,000 *nazarana*. After this, yearly agreements appear to have been substituted.

32. *Difficulties in collecting the revenue.*—The Raja continued to be recalcitrant, and the British officers had the greatest difficulty in collecting the revenue. Mr. Ramus, the Collector of Ramgarh, visited the country in 1778, with the object of inducing the Raja to pay up the demands. But the latter refused to see him. Mr. Ramus thus describes his difficulties in a letter to the Governor-General (the Hon'ble Warren Hastings):—

“During my stay in Nagpur, where the backward state of the revenue rendered my presence necessary, I could not by any means prevail on the Raja to consent to a conference, he having never but once been persuaded to it, which was some years since, with Captain Camac.

I was, for this disappointment, precluded from personally enforcing the necessity for his using his endeavours to adopt and carry into execution in his country the measures which you so strongly recommended for these districts. I must now beg permission to recall to your recollection the distinction between the mode of collecting the revenue of these districts and those under the different Councils of your province, where every zamindar is immediately responsible to them for the land he may hold, and amenable to your Courts in default of payment, whereas the jagirdars and zamindars in these countries pay their rents to their respective Rajas, who are immediately responsible to Government.”

The same officer gave evidence before the Board of Revenue in Calcutta in August of the same year. He does not appear to have had much acquaintance with the district, as he described the country as “an entire plain, well-peopled, and well-cultivated.” Of the Raja and the zamindars, he said, “many of the zamindars have paid no attention when summoned to attend. The Raja never hears. Whenever any force is sent into his country, he immediately flies into the Mahratta country. He is very capable of paying

his revenue, but always evades it, and can never be compelled to obedience save by force." Towards the end of 1778, an establishment of five companies of sepoys was ordered to be stationed at Chatra, the residence of the Ramgarh Collector, for use in the districts under his control, when required. In 1778, the Raja refused either to attend himself or to send an agent to enter into the usual agreement; and it was proposed to employ against him the force stationed at Chatra as soon as it was sufficiently trained to undertake operations in the country. The troops were subsequently despatched to Barwai to assist Captain Camac. Their proximity appears to have affected the Raja, and he executed the necessary agreements.

33. Mode of collecting the revenue.—Up to 1799, the Revenue of the estate was paid to the Collector at Chatra. The mode of collection was peculiar. A "Suzawul" (agent) appointed by the Collector, but paid by the zamindar, was attached to the estate. The Raja made over to him a certain proportion of the harvests under the appellation of "taidad." From this, the "Suzawul" realized the Government revenue and his own allowances. The balance, if any, was returned to the Raja. In 1799-1800, the collectorship of Ramgarh was temporarily abolished, and the district was annexed to the revenue jurisdiction of Behar. The system of collection in vogue was discontinued, and balances begun to accumulate. In 1808, at the Raja's request, a "Suzawul" was again appointed, and soon after a Deputy Collector was stationed at Ramgarh. In 1819 Ramgarh was again created a separate Collectorate from Behar.

34. Settlement declared permanent.—The settlement with the Raja does not appear to have been formally declared permanent. The point was raised in 1799, and the Board of Revenue held in reply to a reference that the settlement was fixed for ever under Regulation I of 1793. The point was again raised in 1823 by Mr. Smith, the Collector of Ramgarh, and it was finally decided that the estate was subject to the Regulations, and that the revenue was fixed and permanent under Regulation I of 1793. An extract shewing the grounds of the decision is quoted below. The revenue now payable by the estate is Rs. 15,043-9.

35. System of administration.—In these early days of British dominion, the Raja of Chota Nagpur was allowed to administer his own country according to his own lights. His territory, which included nearly the whole of the present district of Ranchi and part of Palamau, was, however, nominally included in the jurisdiction of Ramgarh, which included as well the whole of Hazaribagh, Palamau, and parts of Gaya, Monghyr and Manbhum. The allegiance owed by the Raja was very vague. There were no police thanas in Nagpur Proper, and matters were left pretty much to his discretion. "He administered," says Colonel Dalton, "justice and the police under the feudal system that had previously prevailed, working through his vassals, some of whom were Rajas like himself of the old race, holding extensive estates, some of whom were brethren of his own in possession of maintenance grants, and some, persons on whom he had conferred jagirs on condition of their supporting him."

36. The Raja's *kabuliyats*.—In the *kabuliyat* given by the Raja in 1787, he agreed not to levy *sayer* and other prohibited cesses, for which he had received a deduction; to be responsible for the safety of travellers, and to arrest thieves and dacoits and bring them to justice. He further agreed not to exact *salamis*, *nazars*, or *tehewars* (donations) from the raiyats. In case he failed to pay the stipulated revenue, his estate or such portions thereof, as might be necessary, were declared to be saleable. The *kabuliyat* purports to be in respect of the whole pargana of Nagpur, which is the ancient name by which the district of Ranchi and some adjoining parganas were known.

The *patta* given at the time of the decennial settlement is dated 3rd May, 1790. The terms are similar to those contained in the *kabuliyat* and *patta* of 1787. But the Raja definitely undertook not to exact from the raiyats any cesses, save those which were customary in the previous year, not to collect any *sayer* taxes, not to seize any coolies, nor take any *mangan* from the raiyats. The revenue agreed upon was Rs. 14,100-15-3, the difference of Rs. 900, as compared with the *jama* fixed at the previous settlement, being on account of exchange only. A remission of six per cent. was allowed on this head (*batta*).

37. State of the country.—Though the revenue or tribute assessed on the Nagpur estate was extremely light, considering its great extent, the Raja, as has been already shewn, was frequently unable or unwilling to pay it. This state of affairs continued for a long time. The country was in a constant state of turmoil. The Mahrattas commenced to make irruptions in 1792, and plundered the country. Within a period of six years from that date, they made three raids, and the Raja's resources were taxed to the utmost to repel them. A constant object of the Collector of Ramgarh in those days was to obtain an interview with the Raja, with a view to a discussion of the affairs of his country and the settlement of the administration. Deonath Sahi, the Raja, steadfastly refused to see a European and declared his intention of never doing so. In 1793, he was again in arrears with his revenue, and it was proposed to sell a portion of his estate. The Collector tried, but without effect, to induce him to come to Chatra to see him with the object of making arrangements for the punctual discharge of the tribute, and "also to adopt some scheme for checking the enormous evils which had been and are practised in his zamindari, which has been for a long time past the receptacle for murderers, thieves, vagabonds, and all disturbers of the public peace." The arrears were finally paid up; but, in 1798, the Raja again pleaded his inability to discharge the payments, as he had sustained very heavy losses during the raids of the Mahrattas.

38. Disorder and disloyalty.—Captain Roughsedge, the Commandant of the Ramgarh Battalion, in a letter, dated the 27th October, 1806, paints a lurid picture of the disorders prevalent in the district, the disloyalty and recalcitrance of the Raja, and the general inefficiency of British control. The Raja, it appears, declined at this period to have any intercourse with the Magistrates of Ramgarh, to whom they were, at all events, nominally subordinate, or with any other functionaries of the Government. The manner in which the Raja of Barwai was treated in 1801 by his agents, notwithstanding the promises and assurance of the British officers, who induced him to surrender, throws a flood of light on the state of lawlessness and violence which was prevalent in the country. Captain Roughsedge thus relates the incident:—

"I cannot avoid mentioning, however, the treacherous and cruel murder of Hariram Singh, the Raja of Barwai, in the year 1801. This person's pargana was overrun and conquered by the neighbouring Raja of Sirguja, and being unsupported by his immediate superior, the Raja of Chota Nagpur, he was obliged to submit to the invader, whose troops kept possession for some years, but retreated on the intelligence of Colonel Jones's approach. The Raja of Chota Nagpur availed himself of these circumstances to attempt the recapture of Barwai; but, his troops would have had no chance of success, had not Captain Jones and Mr. Smith (at that time Magistrate of Ramgarh) addressed letters to the Raja of Barwai, inviting him to submit on an assurance of personal safety. On the faith of these letters and the solemn promises of his captors, he was induced to place himself in the hands of the Raja of Chota Nagpur, whose officer sent him two days afterwards under an escort to Palkot. Within one mile of this place, he was taken out of his palanquin, and put to death in cold blood by the party who attended him and who had been sent by the Raja for this particular purpose.

I do not believe that any judicial enquiry was ever made or complaint instituted on account of this atrocious act, and, as the present Raja of Chota Nagpur is unconcerned, I should not have thought it applicable to my subject, did it not seem to prove that the want of proper authority in the district is of no recent date, and that the protection accorded to this person by the chief local officers of Government was thus contemptuously rendered ineffectual by an individual calling himself a British subject and in a district declared to be amenable to British laws."

The failure of the Raja to assist the troops passing through his country, and to pay the stipulated revenue punctually, and his resistance to the imposition of excise duties within his territory by the Collector of Ramgarh formed at this time the subject of constant complaints by the local authorities.

Captain Roughsedge sums up his recalcitrance thus:—

"I hope I have not unsuccessfully shewn the necessity of reforms, and to these facts and arguments brought forward, I will only add that the slightest mark of attachment or loyalty to the Government shewn by any individual in Chota Nagpur at the present day is sufficient to bring down upon him the undisguised and serious displeasure of the Raja and his officers."

39. British control ineffective.—It will thus be seen that, though the district was subject to the jurisdiction of the Magistrate of Ramgarh, the control exercised was quite ineffective. The reasons are not far to seek: there were no police thanas in the district, and, therefore, no executive agency subject to the Magistrate or other police authority to carry out his orders. In 1806, Mr. Blunt, Magistrate of Ramgarh, obtained the sanction of Government to the introduction of a system of police under Regulation XVIII of 1805, and a *sanad* was offered to the Raja vesting him with powers under section 6 of that enactment. The measure was, however, never carried into effect, the Raja being evidently averse to the proposal.

40. Disturbances in 1807-1808.—In the years 1807 and 1808, the dissensions in the country became acute. The Raja's brothers laid claim to considerable slices of territory on the plea of alienations made by the late Raja on their behalf. The Raja dispossessed them, and they made complaints at the Magistrate's Court of murder and outrage. The succession to pargana Udaipur was disputed at the same time, and the Raja espoused the cause of one of the claimants and expelled the other. The dispossessed party also repaired to the Magistrate's Court with complaints of all sorts of heinous crimes.

The Raja's Dewan, one Din Dyal Nath, appears to have gained a complete ascendancy over him about this time. He himself, according to an alleged family oath, continued to preserve his invisibility, and Din Dyal affixed his master's seal to whatever orders he chose to issue. Several of the subordinate tenure-holders were dispossessed, and, when they complained, the Raja referred them to the Civil Courts, where he knew the process of redress was tardy and ineffectual. The parties in possession usually refused to appear before the Magistrate to answer accusations, and derided all attempts to enforce the civil process against them.

It was evidently necessary to terminate this state of affairs, and in the rainy season of 1808 the Magistrate received instructions to concert measures with Captain Roughsedge for enforcing the authority of Government.

Captain Roughsedge accordingly marched into the country with his troops. Din Dyal and his adherents fled to Calcutta, where they were arrested by the police and sent back to Chatra. The Raja deprived of his chief advisor, after some hesitation, came into camp and submitted. He agreed to pay all arrears of revenue due, to introduce a system of police, and to submit his own disputes to arbitration. He paid up arrears of revenue amounting to Rs. 35,000, and the disputes between him and his brothers were settled amicably.

41. Police thanas established.—The police arrangements took effect from the 4th June, 1809. The police were managed and paid by the Raja; but they were placed under the control of the Magistrate of Ramgarh. The great distance of the seat of justice—the Ramgarh Magistrate held his Court alternately at Shorghati in Gaya district, and at Chatra in Nazaribagh—was still a bar to the exercise of any effective control, and in point of fact there were no regular police, nor any continuous or effective administration of justice throughout the district till the South-West Frontier Agency was established in 1834. The date 1809 is, however, important in the history of the district. From that date, the exercise of feudal authority by the Nagpur Chief began to disappear, and civil and criminal processes, which had been hitherto ineffective, began to be enforced.

42. Partial failure of the system.—The Raja's consent to the establishment of the police was, it appears, given very reluctantly. The correspondence of the time shows that almost immediately after the establishment of the system, he began to concert measures to nullify its effect. Apart from the diminution of his own authority, the expenses of upkeep were considerable. In 1812 there were six thanas, one each at Maharajganj, Jhikochutti, Barwai, Tamar, Barkaghar, and Tori. The wages of the police were never paid with punctuality, and, in 1818, it was reported that the establishments were three years in arrear. The annual cost then amounted to Rs. 5,400.

In 1819, a woman, who was supposed to have practised magical arts upon the lives of the Raja's son and daughter, was murdered with four

others. The Magistrate received no assistance in the detection of the criminals, who could not be traced in consequence: and he recommended that the Raja should be deprived of his control over the police, and that a Superintendent should be appointed on behalf of Government. The proposed arrangement was sanctioned temporarily, but it appears to have been maintained for a considerable period.

43. *The excise and sayer duties.*—About the year 1820, the most important subjects of disputes between the Raja and the Government officials concerned the *sayer* and excise duties. It appears that various attempts were made about this period to introduce the excise into the district; but the Raja and his jagirdars asserted that the attempt to enforce the tax would result in the abandonment of Nagpur by the Kols. They declared at the same time that the excise was not a source of revenue to themselves. Mr. Smith, the Collector of Ramgarh, however, made a tour in the district in 1822, and found that stills existed in several of the large villages, and that the *abkars* of these stills paid revenue to the Raja or his tenure-holders. He estimated the excise revenue to be Rs. 8,000 per annum. The Raja at the same time continued to press his right to the *sayer* collections. These collections included inland customs and duties, and appear to have consisted in Chota Nagpur of taxes imposed on the sale of goods in the *hâts* or markets and on travellers passing through the country (*nikassi*). They also included the excise duties. The Raja's contention was that other zamindars had received remissions in respect of these items, and that, as he had received no such remissions, he was still entitled to collect them. In his own covenant it is, however, expressly stated that he had received remission in respect of *sayer* duties, though it is very doubtful whether any remission was ever made. His contention with regard to excise duties had hitherto been that no revenue was derived by him or his jagirdars from that source. Hence no remissions could be claimed. The upshot was that the Raja's objections were disallowed, and the excise, which is now the most important source of revenue in the district, was resumed by Government in 1823. A sum of Rs. 6,500 was offered by a farmer of the excise for the whole pargana for a year, and this offer appears to have been accepted. Last year's excise revenue amounted to Rs. 5,93,246.

Mr. Webster, a former manager of the Chota Nagpur estate, has expressed the opinion that the Raja was very unjustly treated in the matter of the resumption of the excise duties. His contention appears to have been that the Raja was a tributary chieftain, and that his estate at the time of the decennial Settlement had been specially exempted from the Regulations. In the original instruction issued for the carrying out of the Behar Settlement, there is an instruction to the effect that *sayer* duties should not be included in the Settlement, but that officers should be sent to collect them on account of Government. As these instructions did not apply to the Chota Nagpur estate, it is assumed that the intention was to leave the *sayer*, which Mr. Webster takes to include excise taxes, in the hands of the Raja.

A great deal of the correspondence relating to the early Settlement made with the Raja is not extant; but, from a perusal of such of the correspondence as exists, it appears that Mr. Webster's opinion is, to some extent, based on a misconception. Mr. Leslie, the Collector of Ramgarh, in a letter dated the 20th June, 1789, urged certain objections against the enforcement of the rules regarding the apportionment of the revenue on the villages included in the estate and the collection of the *sayer* by Government officials. "The people," he said, "who are jealous and uncivilized, may suppose the taking an account of their villages and sending a person to collect the *sayer* duties as a prelude to some more serious innovations, and may, therefore, be induced to make a resistance in the first instance, by which a very heavy expense may be incurred but no advantage." He, therefore, urged that the extending "of these Regulations," evidently the rules regarding the collections of *sayer* and the apportionment of the revenue on individual villages, would be attended with serious consequences.

The final orders passed are contained in a resolution of the Governor-General in Council, dated the 18th September, 1789. Paragraph 29, which

deals with Nagpur, is extremely brief, and is as follows :—"That the Regulations do not extend to this district, but that the Settlement be continued on the present footing and be extended for a period of ten years." Taken in connection with Mr. Leslie's letter, it cannot be contended that it was the intention of the Government to exempt the estate from the whole body of the Regulations and from the operation of all subsequent enactments, and the order appears to have reference only to the two special rules framed for the carrying out of the Behar Settlement. As a matter of fact, the covenants executed by the Raja in 1790 contain the same general conditions as those contained in the covenants of the Raja of Ramgarh and other zamindars. The Raja in his petition did not himself take his stand on the ground that his authority was that of a feudatory Chief exempt from the ordinary Regulations. He merely urged that he had not received any remissions in respect of *sayer* and *akbari*, "as the other zamindars obtained." There appears, therefore, to be no doubt that the paramount power was entitled to resume the duties, though the Raja was entitled to remissions of revenue in respect of them. As stated above, it seems doubtful whether he ever received any remission in respect of the *sayer*, though the fact is stated in the settlement *pattas*. It seems most likely that these *pattas* were copies of a common form, which was issued to several zamindars at the time, and that no corrections were made in them regarding the special circumstances of the *sayer* in Nagpur. This fact escaped the notice of the Raja and his agents, or, more likely, he was content at the time to let the mistake pass without protest, as he preferred to realize the *sayer* duties himself, not having been prohibited from doing so.

With regard to the excise duties, the question is complicated by the fact that the Raja and his agent consistently concealed in the early days the existence of such revenue. He was undoubtedly entitled to claim remissions of revenue on this head, but he failed to do so. Mr. Smith, the Collector of Ramgarh, writing in 1822, sums up the Raja's attitude in the matter at this period, thus:—"I have not agitated the question (the excise tax) with a desire to harass the Raja; but, I have considered it my duty to mention for the information of the Board, the circumstances, which came under my own immediate observation, when passing through the pargana. Should the Board think it advisable to take any steps touching this matter, it may be necessary to premise that the same farce will be acted over again as on a former occasion. We shall be told that the Kols are going back to Rohitagarh; that the pargana will fall into decay; that the public revenue will likely be endangered, nay, more than this, thousands of Kols will probably at the last extremity appear at Chatra peaceably to *gubrau* and *dumkau* the authorities." It would certainly have been more equitable to have allowed the Raja some remissions of revenue when the excise duties were resumed. They were, however, resumed summarily, and no compensation was given, but for this the Raja's own conduct was largely to blame.

44. *The Raja not a feudatory Chief.*—With regard to the theory that the Raja was acknowledged as a feudatory chieftain by the British, the argument in its favour appears to rest on the order of the Governor-General in Council, exempting the estate from the Regulations. The scope of this order appears, however, to have been entirely misunderstood, as pointed out above. From the early correspondence it is clear that the authorities understood that the Regulations were in force, and, as a matter of fact, the Board of Revenue declared in 1799 that the revenue of the estate was permanent under Regulation 1 of 1793. It seems incredible that the Board of Revenue did not know that the Regulations were not in force in the district, if that were really the case, the more so, as the so-called order of exemption was passed only eleven years previously. Further, if the Regulations were not in force, it appears to be clear that the revenue was not permanently fixed, as the last settlement was never formally made permanent.

The feudatory chieftain theory also derives some colour from the fact that for 40 or 50 years after the cession, the Raja was allowed to administer his own territory in his own way. This was entirely due to motives of policy. The resources of the Company and, indeed, the revenues of the province did not allow of the extension of a settled system of Government under close British control. The extension of the control was gradual and cannot, indeed, be said

to have been complete till quite recent years, when subdivisions were established at Gumla and at Khunti, and the remotest corners of the district were made practically amenable to the system of British administration.

It seems to be quite clear that the status of the Nagpur Raja was from the first regarded as being the same as that of any other zamindar in the *soubah* of Bihar, and settlements were made with him accordingly.

45. *The decision of Government*.—The final decision of Government as to the status of the Raja is contained in a letter No. 22, from the Secretary to the Government, to the members of the Board of Revenue, dated the 23rd January, 1824, from which I may quote the following extract:—"On the question of the footing on which the zamindar of Chota Nagpur is to be considered, as standing in relation to the British Government, His Lordship in Council is of opinion that any claim by that person to exemption from the general Regulations is inadmissible. In the Regulations for the administration of justice, passed on the 6th April and 5th July, 1781, the district of Nagpur is specifically mentioned as included in the jurisdiction of the *adalat* of Chatra. The legal liability of the Raja and other inhabitants of the district to the Criminal law appears to have been frequently recognized by the *Nizamut Adalat* and by Government, though from the nature of the country, its frontier position, and the character of the people, it was long before the authority of Government was fully established. The Resolution proposed by Mr. Shore and adopted by Government on the 18th September, 1789 appears to have referred merely to the Regulations proposed for the settlement of the land revenue, though so worded as to admit of a more comprehensive application. The *patta* to the Raja in 1197 appears to be in the same form as the *pattas* granted to other zamindars. It specifically declares his liability to the process of sale for the recovery of arrears due from him, as well as to the ordinary charge of interest on balances which he might allow to accrue. The subsequent resolution of Government to abstain from the ordinary process appears to have been founded partly on a consideration of the difficulties which it was alleged the Raja had encountered in the collection of his rents, but principally on the persuasion that such a process could not, with propriety, be applied to an extensive and inaccessible region, peopled by classes represented as singularly rude and ignorant. Even, supposing that the Resolution of September, 1789 had been intended to declare the zamindars of Nagpur exempt from the general operation of the Revenue Regulations, yet that resolution must have been held to be superseded by the rules subsequently passed and enacted in a revised form in 1793. In the general code of that year, there is nothing to indicate that any part of the district of Ramgarh was to be excluded from the general scheme. The rule contained in section 84, Regulation VIII, sufficiently provided against the minute scrutiny which the Collector of Ramgarh had in 1789 deprecated, and it is further to be observed that the correspondence which led to the enactment of that portion of Regulation IV of 1794, which exempts from the operation of the rules regarding the appointment of *patwaris* and the delivery of *pattas*, the part of the zillas of Ramgarh included in the *soubah* of Bihar, contains, among other papers, a petition from the Raja of Chota Nagpur. He had been with other zamindars required to conform to the rules in question and with the others had represented their inapplicability to the state of things existing in his estate; but there is not the slightest hint of any claim to an exemption from the law. His Lordship in Council is satisfied, therefore, that the General Regulations apply to Chota Nagpur, and ought to be enforced there with the reserve generally applicable to estates similarly circumstanced. It need scarcely be added that His Lordship in Council deems the zamindar of Chota Nagpur, to be clearly entitled to the benefit of the declaration contained in Regulation I of 1793, by which the decennial Settlement concluded under the Resolutions of the 18th September and 25th November, 1789, and the 10th February, 1790, is declared to be permanent."

46. *Relations with Government*.—It appears from the correspondence of the period that the relations between the Government officials and the Raja were still far from cordial; nor, does the administration of the district appear to have much improved.

47. *Period 1820 to 1830.*—During the period 1820-1830, the Raja continued to be dilatory in his payments of revenue, and the Collector, Mr. Smith, was obliged to attach his demesne lands in 1823. Numerous disputes between the Raja and his jagirdars as to his rights of resumption arose, and very little attention was paid to the letter or the spirit of the Regulations, which appear to have been unknown in many parts of the district. In addition the steady and continuous flow of foreigners from the Behar and Bengal districts, and the steady acquisition of landed property by them, caused serious discontent among the aboriginal population.

In 1820, serious disturbances broke out in Tamar, which required the despatch of a considerable force to put down. In 1826, Armai and Gobindpur thanas were taken out of the hands of the Raja, and their expenses defrayed by Government.

48. *Insurrection of the Kols, 1831-1832.*—It was not, however, till 1831 when the general insurrection of the Kols broke out that the attention of Government was really arrested, and the necessity of radical reforms in the administration conclusively demonstrated. For a long time the discontent had been growing among the Mundas of Sonepur owing to the encroachment of the foreigners, who were continually arriving and settling in the country. But the immediate cause of the outbreak was the action of Harnath Sahi, a younger brother of the Raja, in giving out several villages in farm to Sikhs, Mohamedans, and others over the heads of the rightful owners, the Mankis and Mundas. In this way, twelve villages, that had belonged to Singhrail Manki, were given to the Sikhs. The statement of Bindra Manki of Ichagutu, Singhrail's brother, taken at the time and apparently fully believed by Mr. Cuthbert and Captain Wilkinson, throws a flood of light on the state of lawlessness, which prevailed about this time in the district, and the hopelessness of the aboriginal population ever obtaining any redress from the local potentates who were then in practical possession of the country. The statement is as follows:—

"I borrowed a pair of old buffaloes from Burju Bania of the Sonepur pargana. This man came to my house accompanied by 60 men and took from me six cows, and calves, and four buffaloes, seized both my brother, Singhrail and myself, and took us to his house. We succeeded in effecting our escape, but my cattle were not released. I complained to Koomkera Singh, Raja of Bandgaon, of the Bania's treatment of us. He listened to me and gave me 35 men for my protection with whom I went to Surgaon, where not finding the Bania, we seized two men and a pair of bullocks which we took to the Raja. For this an inhabitant of Surgaon, named Singh, preferred a complaint against me at Sherghati. My brother Singhrail and self and Bahadur were seized by the Chakardharpur Munshi and Jamadar who came to Bandgaon for the purpose. I requested them to send us to Sherghati, if our seizure were in consequence of orders from there. They replied that they would give us answer on paying them 100 rupees. After remaining confined in the stocks for fifteen days and suffering great pain, we escaped. When our flight was discovered, the Munshi and Jamadar carried off my two wives. They released the older, who was pregnant, but the other, who was young, was detained and ravished by the Munshi and two of his Musalman peons; the Singh of Surgaon has besides taken away two of my sisters by force, who are still in his house. At the Dasahara of the present year, Singhrail, Bahadur and I waited on Raja Achet Singh of Porahat; Soorie Munda also accompanied us. We complained to the Raja of his Munshi's having aided with his father-in-law and deprived my wife of her chastity and of the Singh having forcibly taken away and kept my sisters. When we had told the Raja our grievances, we returned home. We four were subsequently sent for by Kishna Dewan, who told us that, as we were Kols, we might do as we pleased, but be careful, not to involve Raja Achet Singh in any difficulties by our conduct. We returned home, invited all the Kols our brethren and caste to assemble at the village Lankah in Tamar, where we had a consultation. The Pathans had taken our honour and the Singh our sisters, and the Kuar, Haranath Sahi, had forcibly deprived us of our estate of twelve villages which he had given to the Singh. Our lives we considered of no value, and being of one caste and brethren, it was agreed upon that we should commence to cut, plunder, murder and eat. We said, if any were hanged it would be us four; if any put in irons, we should be the four. We four should be answerable, and if the gentlemen sent for any it would be us, who were ready to attend and submit to whatever might be the sentence. It is with this resolution that we have been murdering and plundering those who have deprived us of both honour and homes, conceiving that committing such outrages our grievances would come to light, and that, if we had any master, notice would be taken of them and justice rendered."

It was probably the intention of the Sonepur insurgents to confine the plundering and looting to their immediate neighbourhood. The arrows of war,

however, were circulated through the country, and by the middle of January 1832, the Uraons had also entered into the spirit of insurrection, which developed into a national crusade, with the avowed object of getting rid of the horde of foreigners, who had settled in the country. There were no troops available in the district, and the zamindars, who were mainly responsible for the outbreak, sought safety in flight. The insurgents were joined by a force of Lurka Kols from Singhbhum, who joined eagerly in the work of destruction. The result was that the whole country was for the time being at their mercy.

The plan they pursued was to send intimation to those of their caste in the villages in advance, that they purposed to plunder and burn the houses of all the respectable inhabitants in seven days. The latter were told by the Kols of their own villages that the Lurkas were advancing, and that, unless they departed, they would be murdered. Very few delayed their departure and the advancing parties were joined by the Kols of every village they approached, who partook of the plunder of all the property left by those who ran away. Those of the respectable inhabitants, who neglected the warning of the Kols, were murdered. "The instances of such courage", Captain Wilkinson wrote, "have been rare, and the numbers of murders have consequently been fewer than might have been expected, when it is considered that the houses and property of almost every respectable individual in Nagpur have been plundered and burnt."

In the meanwhile, troops were being gradually collected; but, not till the middle of February, 1832 were they able to take the offensive on a large scale. Three flying columns were formed which swept the country from north to south. Little opposition was encountered save in Sonepur, where it was found that the inhabitants had abandoned their villages and taken to the hills. All the columns now concentrated in this country and the leaders, after some resistance, surrendered on the 19th March, 1832 to the Commissioners, who directed the operations.

49. *Causes of the insurrection.*—The causes of the insurrection are thus explained in detail in the report of the Joint Commissioners, Mr. Dent and Captain Wilkinson, written soon after the suppression of the revolt:—

"All the Mankis of Sonepur had for some years been deprived of their hereditary estates by Harnath Sahi, the Kuar of Gobindpur, who had farmed them to *thiccadars* on tenures varying. These *thiccadars* had rendered themselves obnoxious not only to the Mankis but to the cultivators. They would not permit the former to have even the fruit of trees which themselves and their forefathers had planted, and, having only a temporary interest in the land, they naturally raised from it the highest possible rents. Two of the Singhbhum Sirdars, Bindrai of Kutma and Soyee Munda of Gobindpur, had been ill treated by two of the Sonepur *thiccadars* and a relation of one of them in the service of the Singhbhum Raja, in the manner specified in our former despatches. These two Sirdars, it would appear, having consulted with their brethren, the Mankis of Sonepur, called in the assistance of the Bandgaon Kols, over whom Bindrai appears to have had great influence, and those of Kochang, Sunjari and Jamoor Chitpele of Tamar, who have always been forward wherever plunder was obtainable. They resolved to rid themselves of the obnoxious class of *thiccadars*, and with this view commenced plundering and burning their property and murdering themselves and their dependents, wherever they could meet them.

In the villages which were first attacked, the Kols were heard to say that they would not leave a *thiccadar* alive in Sonepur who were enriching themselves on their (the Kols') lands while the rightful owners of them were starving. They did not molest or carry off from the villages, which they attacked, the property of the Kols by whom they were generally joined. The news of this forbearance and of the cruelties practised towards the *Suds* (Hindus) spread rapidly, and induced the latter to desert their houses and their property with the exception of what they could carry away about their persons. The Rautia zamindars of Sonepur had recently had their rents raised, and the Kuar had deprived some of them of their estates and had farmed, mortgaged or granted other villages in mukarrari tenures. When they were called on to collect their followers to resist the Kols, not a man came

forward and they were left unmolested by the Kols, which leaves but little doubt, but that they were from the first aware of the course to be pursued, and latterly they actually joined the insurgents.

The Kols throughout Nagpur had within the last few years had their rents increased by their *elagadars*, *zamindars* and *thicladars* 35 per cent. by a process mentioned in the 19th paragraph of our letter of the 5th April. They had made roads through the *pargana* without payment, as *begarries* (forced labour). The *mahajans*, who advanced money and grain, managed within a 12-month to get from them 70 per cent., and sometimes more. They disliked the tax upon liquor, which was fixed at four annas per house; but, more than that amount was levied very generally, besides a rupee *salami* on almost every village and a *khasi* or goat.

In a former despatch we stated that the Kols were averse to undertake the cultivation of the poppy, and we find a great disinclination on the part of other classes to carry it on. Under these circumstances and with reference to the accompanying statement, we have ordered it to be discontinued in Nagpur, and recommend that the people in Palamau should no longer be called on to cultivate it.

The thana establishments were also complained of, and a "dak" establishment was kept up, the expense of which fell upon the Kols of those villages which were situated on the lines of road traversed by the "dak". The *raiya*s of the Raja's *bhandar* (*khas*) villages complain that the present Dewan had within the last five years taken from them double the quantity of *seika* grain which he did formerly. The *seika* is a certain portion of grain furnished annually to the Raja by his *bhandar* villages under particular rules, and the quantity has been increased by increasing the size of the measure. The *peons* collecting the rents in the *bhandar* villages formerly received one *pyla* of rice or one anna per diem. They now take four since the present Dewan came into power. The *ahangars*, who go as labourers into Bengal and other parts of India, are on their return obliged to pay one rupee each to the owner or farmer of their villages, and this is denominated *koorkur*. Bondsmen have long existed in Ramgarh, Sherghati and other parts of this zilla, but were not known in Chota Nagpur. Many people from below the ghat have settled in Nagpur and it was one of the subjects of complaint amongst the Kols that within the last five years several of these settlers, to whom they had become deeply indebted, had pressed so hard for payment that many of the Kols had executed *sewakpattans*, that is, had sold their services till the debt was discharged, which was in fact binding themselves to give their whole earnings to their creditor, receiving from him food and clothing, or to work for him exclusively, thus becoming his bondsmen for life.

The complaints against the thana *amla* were loud in our progress through the country, but the number of instances of exaction, which appeared in the statements we have as yet received from the Amins, are by no means so numerous as we anticipated. This may proceed from a reluctance on the part of those who have paid money to come forward with their complaints from an apprehension that proving their correctness will be attended with much trouble and inconvenience. The following instance will show the nature of those brought to our notice.

Lornooraw Kol of Chuttercote stated that "in the month of Bhado last one of his *ahangars* returning from work went to a tank, fell into it, and was drowned. The circumstance was reported at the thana of Jeckuchutti, in consequence of which there came a *burkundaz* to examine the corpse, etc. He was accompanied by 10 or 15 *Kotwars*, and remained eight days in the village during which time they consumed 5 *kats* of *oosna* rice, 2½ *kats* of *orwa* rice, 2 rupees worth of ghee and 1 rupee's worth of salt. In addition to this, the sepoy took rupees 26-4, which was paid him to prevent his carrying his threat of sending the Kol to Sherghati into execution.

The *Mahtos*, *Pahans*, or *elagadars* of villages were required annually to register the names of the *Kotwals* and *Garait*s of their respective villages, on which occasion the *darogas* of thanas were in the habit of taking one rupee or more according to the size of the village under the denomination of *kotwali* or *garait likhai*.

The cause of the commencement of the disturbances we conceive to have been satisfactorily explained and, considering the semi-barbarous state in which the Nagpur Kols yet remain, we do not deem it unnatural, when they saw the *Suds* deserting their villages and found themselves looked upon by the Sonapur insurgents as an injured class in place of objects of attack, and impressed as they were with an idea that they could plunder with impunity and get rid of the *Suds*, whom they esteemed their oppressors, that they should make an effort and take an active part in the insurrection.

We have received a statement tending directly to implicate the Raja's brother and the Kuars of Basia and Govindpur as the planners of the insurrection; but no proof of this exists, and, though the story is plausibly enough got up, it is in our opinion by no means a probable one, notwithstanding there being some facts on which it is founded, viz., that the Chatra Babu and one of the Pachete Raja's relations came to marriages at Basia and Govindpur as specified in the statement appended No. 1. There are some circumstances in the conduct of the Raja of Nagpur and the Kuar of Basia which give the story an appearance of truth. In several instances, in which *elagadars* and *thiccadars* were killed in the insurrection, their villages have been taken possession of by the Kuar and Raja on the plea of there being no direct male heirs. It must, however, be borne in mind that this statement was not made till these things were known, and the man who gave it in is at enmity with the Basia family. In the beginning of October, when again asked how he became acquainted with the facts detailed in particular parts of his statement, he replied that the part relating to the Seraikhela Sirdar was pure conjecture, because he was nearly connected with the Raja, and another part was of a precisely similar nature.

It is by no means probable that, if the Govindpur Kuar was a party to such a plan, he would have employed those men as instruments, namely, the Mankis and Rautias whom he had reduced to poverty and beggary. Nor is it likely, had they been acting under his directions, that they would have plundered his property, which they undoubtedly did, as well as the property of every *Sud* through all the villages of his country. Basia itself was not, and indeed few of the villages in that pargana were plundered, but this might have been owing to a dread of Lohar Singh Rautia, the zamindar of that estate, who can command a numerous force of followers of his own caste, or to his being a party in the insurrection. At all events, the *Suds* residing in the estates of the Kuar and his brother the Thakur in other parts of the country were not spared.

Gopi Pande, who was said to be on his way to the Commissioner's, was certainly killed in Basia on the night previous to Gopinath Sahai's and Lohar Singh's starting to join our camp at Barkagarh. An outcry at the time he was killed was made, probably by his murderers, that a tiger had seized him. A mystery which has not been cleared up hangs over his death.

We also append a statement No. 2 made by Sahib Singh, Subadar of the Ramgarh battalion, who commanded the party of that corps which came from Sambalpur and was in Palkot during the latter part of the disturbances. It will be perceived therefrom that the Raja accused the Basia Kuar and Lohar Singh of being the originators of the insurrection. Subsequently to taking Sahib Singh's statement we confronted the Raja with the Subadar without permitting the presence of a third person. The Raja, however, did not fully adhere to what he had asserted in the presence of the Subadar at Palkot, though he insisted that Lohar Singh was one of the instigators but could not bring forward any proofs. He may, however, have had a better understanding with the insurgents than we are aware of.

It was mentioned by a brother of the Dewan of Rahe that the Kols of Tamar and Bundu had received *sanads* from the Maharaja of Nagpur, desiring them to burn, plunder, and expel the foreigners. He had seen no *sanads* and could bring no proof of their existence; neither could we subsequently learn from any of the Kols of the pargana anything confirmatory of this statement.

A brahman of Basia, Sohra Misser, who was once Lohar Singh Rautia's Dewan, accused, in a statement given in on the 29th May, Lohar Singh Rautia and Kumul Singh Rautia of planning and instigating the insurrection

for the purpose of getting rid of the thanas and gentlemen, and of the *Suds*. For the proof of what he asserted, he referred us to the people who had been plundered, and when asked for the name of his informers he first gave one and then another, but could not adduce any proofs. This man is not considered a good character.

There are reasons why the Raja should wish to get rid of our interference. Its consequence has been to deprive him of all influence and authority over the jagirdars and zamindars, who, whatever the nature of their tenures, have long considered that the regular discharge of their *malguzari* (rent) emancipated them from all further claims on the part of the Raja. On the contrary, previous to the country having become subject to our Regulations, a forfeiture of estate would have followed a disregard of a call for services. He has likewise been a loser in a pecuniary point of view. In addition to his *malguzari*, he used to collect throughout the country every third year *madad* the amount of which, though considerable, we have not had the means of ascertaining. This was prohibited in 1783.

He also collected *punchpownea* in many parts of the country, a tax on men of certain castes and trades, varying in rate from 4 to 12 annas per house in different parganas. The classes taxed were Telis, Dhobies, Kumhars, Hajams, Jolahas, Chiks, Tantis, Chamars, etc. This was ordered to be discontinued 15 or 16 years ago. On occasions of rejoicing or mourning, such as births, marriages and deaths in the royal family, contributions were levied, which are now no longer tendered or permitted. He has also been deprived of his *sayer* duties. Of this last deprivation, he claims a restoration and has instituted a suit in Court. But the *kabuliyat* given to Mr. Leslie would induce a belief that his claim was a bad one, as in it it is distinctly stated that a remission had been previously granted."

50. Administrative reforms.—The suppression of the revolution was followed immediately by a number of administrative reforms. In Sonapur, the Mankis and Mundas were all reinstated in their respective villages on reduced rentals, and the *thiccadars* and mukarridars were referred to the Kuar for the adjustment of their claims. The cultivation of the poppy was discontinued, and the collections on account of "abkari" and the "dāk" cess were suspended for the time being.

The question of the rents payable by the great mass of the agricultural Kol population was, however, left untouched, so that the so-called reforms merely affected the fringe of the trouble. The insurrection and the causes which led to it proved conclusively the necessity of a closer administrative and more effective control by British officers on the spot. It was, therefore, considered necessary to alter the system of administration, and to establish Courts within the limits of the Chota Nagpur estate. The South-West Frontier Agency was accordingly established in 1834, with head-quarters at Kishanpur (Ranchi).

51. Munsiffs' Courts.—At the time of the insurrection there were, it appears, two Munsiffs' Courts stationed in the country, one at Lohardaga and one at Barkaghar.

The administration of the existing laws by these Courts did not, it seems, inspire confidence. "As they only enabled", says Mr. Dent, "the creditor more rigorously to enforce payment of his claims and the landholders of all denominations to compel payment of their rents by means of the process of distraint, they were not likely to be viewed with favour by the Kols, to whom they appeared rather as instruments of oppression than justice."

52. The South-West Frontier Agency.—The most important result of the insurrection and other kindred disturbances, which occurred about the same time in parts of the jungle mahals and in Dhalbhum, was that a Regulation (Regulation XIII of 1833) was passed abolishing the Courts of the *Dewani Adalat* of Ramgarh and the jungle mahals, and providing special rules for the superintendence of certain tracts of country, which were now formed into an Agency to be known as the South-West Frontier Agency. The Agency consisted of Chota Nagpur (the present district of Ranchi and pargana Tori), Palamau, Kharakdiha, Ramgarh, Kundu, the jungle mahals (except Bishenpur, Sainpahari, and Sherghar), and pargana Dhalbhum which

was then included in district Midnapur. Within the territory so constituted, the operation of the Regulations and of the rules for the administration of Civil and Criminal Justice and the collection of the revenue was suspended, and authority in these and all other matters vested in an officer, denominated Agent to the Governor-General. Power was taken to prescribe rules for the guidance and control of the Agent and the officers subordinate to him. Those portions of the old Ramgarh district, which were not included in the Agency, were transferred to zilla Behar, with the exception of pargana Chacke, which was transferred to Bhagalpur. Captain Thomas Wilkinson was appointed first Agent under the new Regulation on a salary of Rs. 36,000 per annum, with two senior and two junior Assistants, the disposal of whose services was left in his discretion.

53. Powers of Agent.—Under the rules framed under the Regulation, the Agent was given very large powers. He was vested with the same powers as were exercised by Commissioners of Revenue and Civil and Sessions Judges; but, he was enjoined, until otherwise directed, to conform to all orders from the *Sadar Dewani and Nizamat Adalat*, the Sadar Board of Revenue, and the Board of Customs, Salt and Opium in the same manner as the local officers were required to do before the suspension of the operation of the Regulations. It was contemplated, however, that it would not be necessary for these Courts and Boards of Control to interfere, except in matters referred by the Agent, unless a strong necessity for such interference should arise. The Agent was to exercise similar powers of control over his Assistants, and all other persons subject to his authority.

54. Divisions.—The whole territory was sub-divided by the Agent into three parts, which were demarcated as the Manbhum, Lohardaga, and Hazaribagh divisions. The district of Singhbhum was established some years later. The Lohardaga division, which corresponded roughly to the present districts of Ranchi and Palamau, was placed in charge of Lieutenant Ousley with its administrative head-quarters at Lohardaga, while the Agent's head-quarters was located at Kishanpur, a small village situated within the municipal limits of the present town of Ranchi, near where the district jail now stands. The officers in charge of the divisions were called Principal Assistants to the Agent to the Governor-General, and their duties corresponded to some extent with those which are now performed by Deputy Commissioners of districts.

55. Criminal Justice.—According to the rules, as finally sanctioned by the Government, for the administration of Criminal justice, the Assistants were to be guided by the general Regulations in the discharge of their judicial functions, and to punish offenders under the powers vested in Magistrates by the Regulations. Their proceedings were subject to revision by the Agent, who was empowered to confirm, annul, or modify them at his discretion.

They were further empowered to pass sentences of imprisonment for a period of seven years; but, all sentences, which exceeded the powers vested in the Magistrates by the Regulations, were subject to confirmation by the Agent. Detailed rules regarding procedure, the recording of confessions, evidence, etc., were also drawn up. These were superseded by Act XXV of 1861 (the Criminal Procedure Code), which was extended to the districts of Chota Nagpur by order No. 3167A., dated the 26th December, 1861. The special powers vested in Assistants were, however, held to be in force till the passing of Act XV of 1862, under which district officers in the province were authorized to try cases except those punishable with death, and to pass sentence up to seven years. The extra powers are still exercised by Deputy Commissioners under the provisions of sections 30 and 34 of the present Code of Criminal Procedure (Act V of 1898).

56. Civil Justice.—A simple code of rules was also drawn up by Captain Wilkinson for the administration of Civil justice, but they did not receive the sanction of Government, pending the promulgation of a Bill on the subject, which was under preparation at the time, but which was never passed. There were, therefore, no specific rules to guide the Courts in the administration of Civil justice for some years, until the introduction of the Civil Procedure Code (Act VIII of 1859). The Courts, however, appear to have been guided by the general spirit of the rules framed by Captain Wilkinson.

and by the Regulations. An appeal was allowed from the decision of the Munsiffs to the Assistant and from the decisions of the latter to the Agent.

5. *Two special rules.*—Two of the most remarkable of Captain Wilkinson's rules are contained in paragraphs 26 and 27 of his despatch. They are as follows:—

"26. Vakils shall not be permitted to plead in any of the Courts within the jurisdiction, but parties shall be allowed to conduct their business in the Courts, either in person or by Mukhtiar or authorized agents. But suits for the remunerations of Agents or Mukhtiar shall not be heard in any Court.

(The object of this rule is to discourage vexatious litigation, which in the Regulation provinces is greatly promoted by intriguing Vakils or Mukhtiar.)

27. No sale, transfer, or mortgage of any landed property, on account of claims for rent or on any other account, shall be legal until the authority of the Governor-General's Agent for such sale, transfer or mortgage shall have been obtained.

[The object of this rule is to prevent the sale, transfer, or mortgage of lands, which, whether hereditary or not, are considered so by the holders, who would themselves hereafter, even if consenting to transfer, sale, or mortgage, or whose heirs would (a favourable opportunity offering) make an effort to recover the lands by violent measures, also to check the jungle rajas, jagirdars or zamindars from involving themselves in debt, which by mortgage, etc., they have a facility of doing."

No Vakils or Pleaders practised in the Courts, but Mukhtiar were subsequently allowed to practise under the authority of the Governor-General's Agent, and were remunerated according to scale of fees prescribed by him in 1845. Pleaders were first appointed on the promulgation of Act XX of 1865.

58. *Continuance of the restrictions on transfer, etc.*—When Act VIII of 1859 (an Act for simplifying the procedure of the Courts of Civil judicature) was extended to the districts of Hazaribagh, Manbhum, and Lohardaga, the following proviso was added to the notification:—

"As for good and sufficient reasons, it is considered expedient that the present restrictions on the sale of landed property in those districts should continue in force, section 205 of the aforesaid Act (the Code of Civil Procedure) is hereby extended, subject to the proviso that no sale of land shall be made in the districts of Hazaribagh, Lohardaga and Manbhum, without the sanction of the Commissioner of the Province had and obtained before."

When Act X of 1877 (the Code of Civil Procedure) came into operation, notifications (dated the 27th June, 1878 and 31st December, 1879) were issued, declaring the continuance of this rule in Hazaribagh and Lohardaga, pargana Dhalbhum, and in those parts of Manbhum (specified) which were mainly inhabited by a non-Bengali population. When the Encumbered Estates Act (Act VI of 1876) became law, it was considered that the political necessity, which gave rise to the rule, had disappeared, and in 1882, the restrictions upon the sale of lands in executions of Civil decrees, without the Commissioner's consent, were withdrawn, and, by the terms of a notification, dated the 13th June, 1882, the previous rules were modified and the Commissioner was empowered, in any case in which he might consider it desirable to do so, "to forbid the sale of any estate or part of an estate situated in the Chota Nagpur Division."

59. *Restrictions abolished.*—The powers thus conferred continued in force till the new Civil Procedure Code (Act V of 1908) became law, and were mainly exercised in the case of estates, the owners of which had applied for protection under the Encumbered Estates Act, the applications being pending for final orders. The notification of 1882 was issued under the powers conferred on the Local Government by the second clause of section 327 of Act XIV of 1882 (The Civil Procedure Code). The clause was omitted in the new Code; so the notification became invalid from the date on which the latter came into force. The Commissioner can, therefore, no longer exercise any veto on the sale of estates or parts thereof in the Civil Courts; but, it is understood that it is proposed to amend the Encumbered Estates Act, with a view to give him power to intervene in the case of estates, the owners of which have applied for protection under that Act, pending the disposal of the applications. It will thus be seen that up to the year 1882, no landed property could be sold or alienated without the consent of the Commissioner. From that year, this restriction was withdrawn, and the

Commissioner henceforward had power only to prohibit the sale of estates or portions thereof. This latter power also has been taken away since 1908.

60. Restrictions on transfer of landed property adhered to.—The orders regarding the restriction on sale, transfer or mortgage of landed property appear to have been rigidly adhered to for some time in this district at least, and in 1839, the Assistant in charge of Lohardaga division reported to the Agent that landed property is never sold in execution of decrees for arrears of rent or on any other account. The same officer reported in 1853 that, since the district came into the possession of Government, "land has never been in one solitary case sold in execution of a decree." The system, as might be expected, led to some grave abuses. Mr. Ricketts, Member of the Board of Revenue, reported as follows in 1855 :—

"It appears to me that the system existing is the most mischievous that could be followed ; so that any change would be for the better. It is enough to say that it is uncertain, and as being uncertain it must be bad. If it was resolved, either that estates should be sold in execution of decrees, or that they should not be sold, lenders and borrowers would understand their position, and regulate their transactions accordingly. Under the existing custom, a landowner may borrow with the understanding that his estate is not protected from sale, and when the lender shows inclination to proceed to extremities, he has but to cause hints to be conveyed to the authorities that a sale could not be enforced without risking the peace of the country ; and he may defy the creditor and the Courts ; the Agent will not allow a sale.

There are other weighty objections to the system. There is not even an attempt to disguise the truth. It is not said that it is desirable to maintain the old zamindar, because he is a good subject, manages his estate well, and is a friend to his raiyats ; on the contrary, it is declared, that it is advisable to protect the zamindar, because he is a bad subject, because it is supposed that, should the authorities endeavour to do justice to his creditor, he is prepared to stir up his ignorant followers and cultivators to resistance ; in short, that he is prepared to rebel rather than pay, and therefore it must be permitted to him not to pay. Further the effect is to place all the district authorities in a most undignified, and, therefore, most harmful position. On a sale being pressed by a decree-holding creditor, the Principal Assistant in charge of the district has to inquire and report, whether, in his opinion, the defendant is so bad a subject that he is worthy of the protection of the Court. He has to seek information whether the inhabitants are ignorant and likely to be misled, whether the influence of the zamindar over them is considerable and likely to be exercised for mischievous purposes. Should the results of the inquiry affirm all these positions, it is the business of the district officer to propose that, to use the phraseology of the division, "the estate should receive the protection of the Agent's office." Should the inquiry show that the zamindar has always been, and is, a well-disposed subject, that his raiyats are not much under his influence, and that what influence he does possess, he never would exert to their injury in order to obtain any selfish end, the district officer must report that there is nothing to prevent the law from taking its course. The effect of all this cannot but be bad ; it must bring the Courts and the officers, who preside in them, into contempt, and it must incline the zamindars to have a bad character rather than a good one.

That change is desirable must be admitted. I see that all the existing authorities are unwilling to take upon themselves the responsibility of proposing the sale of land in execution of decrees, though they fairly see the mischief of the existing system. I am unwilling to propose a change, but it is unquestionable, I think, that a positive prohibition of all sales, under any circumstances, would be preferable to the existing uncertainty. If it was declared that no landed property of any sort should be held answerable for the debts of the proprietors, all dealings would be conducted with reference to the immunity declared."

61. Method of realizing debts.—The method of realizing debts due on landed property is thus described by the Deputy Commissioner of Hazaribagh in 1869 :—

"It was and still continues to be the custom, when any zamindar or sadar farmer falls into arrears, to follow the provisions of Regulation IV of 1793 and Regulation VII of 1799, and to issue a *dustuk* on the defaulter, sometimes a second and third time, and, if the defaulter still failed to pay the amount due from him, his moveable property was first attached and sold after proclamation, and, if the amount of sale did not cover the amount due, his immoveable property was attached and managed direct by the Deputy Commissioner as Collector, till the arrears were cleared off, when the estate was released.

In some cases the person of the defaulter was seized, and he was committed to prison till that arrear was made good."

62. Wisdom of the rule.—The wisdom of the Agent's rules, prohibiting transfer of land, was, notwithstanding Mr. Rickett's remarks, proved by subsequent experience. The free sale of landed property for arrears of rent, and the rights of transfer of raiyati and *khunt-katti* tenancies, which were exercised from 1882 onwards, led to serious abuses and to grave disturbances in the

Munda country, and Government was obliged to give statutory effect again to the principles, which the authority of the Agent enforced in the early days of the South-West Frontier Agency. The restrictions on the transfer of these tenancies contained in sections 46, 48 and 240 of the present Tenancy Act give effect to the same principles. Power has also been delegated to the Commissioner by the provisions of section 208 of the Tenancy Act to prohibit or stay the sale of tenures or portions thereof for arrears of rent. But, as the law stands at present, he cannot interfere with sales under the Civil Courts' process.

63. Power to adjust accounts and to release property.—Besides the restrictions on the sale of land above referred to, the Agent, Captain Wilkinson, obtained the consent of Government (the orders are dated the 13th October, 1834) to a rule empowering him to interfere, whenever the estate of an hereditary proprietor was so deeply involved as to render such interposition desirable. He was empowered to adjust accounts, to declare what was actually due to the creditors, to regulate interest charges, and to release mortgaged property, whenever it was found that the debt had been liquidated by the usufruct. If necessary, he had authority to sequester the estate for the payment of the debts.

"It has always been held," says Colonel Dalton, writing in 1869, "that the Commissioner, in refusing to sell an estate, may order its sequestration till the debt be paid; this power was exercised as derived from the orders of the 13th October, 1834, and appears a necessary corollary to the authority conferred to stay sales of estates. I have no hesitation in saying that, had this power not been conferred on the Commissioner, very few of the estates in Chota Nagpur would, up to this time, have remained in the hands of the old proprietors, and it would have been a calamity to the people, if they had passed into the hands of the aliens. It is with them a maxim that, however ignorant, dissipated, extravagant, their zamindars, or, more properly, chiefs of the old line may be, they are to them better and kinder landlords than the most enlightened of interlopers. It is, however, to be regretted that the rules issued for the preservation of estates were not more comprehensive and complete. What was wanted, and what we should have here, is a law of entail that would strictly limit the interest of each chief and debar any alienation of the property beyond his own life."

64. A regular system of Police and Courts.—The most important result of the establishment of the Agency was that for the first time since the cession of the *Dewani*, a regular system of Police and Courts for the administration of justice by British officers was established. The people had, therefore, for the first time in their history, Courts sitting at reasonable distances from their villages, presided over by officers, who were ready to listen to their grievances and to redress abuses according to their lights.

65. The administration of Civil Justice.—There were two Munsiffs stationed in the district, one at Ranchi, and the other at Lohardaga. The principal *Sadar* amin of Gola also appears to have exercised jurisdiction. The Principal Assistant tried some important original suits and heard appeals from the Munsiffs. Complaints have been very often made on behalf of the aborigines of the law's delay and the ruinous expense entailed by litigation. It is, however, interesting to note the great improvements, which have been effected in this respect during the last half century. Mr. Ricketts reported in 1855 that the principal *Sadar* amin of Gola decided between May and September of 1853 only eleven original suits. The average time during which each suit was pending, was 3 years, 3 months, and 28 days. The Munsiffs of Chota Nagpur and Lohardaga were less dilatory. The average time, during which suits were kept pending in their Courts, was 6 and 11 months respectively; the number of suits disposed of by all these officers was insignificant, when compared with more modern standards.

66. Ex parte decrees not permitted.—An interesting side light is thrown on the distrust, with which these Courts were regarded by the aborigines, by the existence of a rule, which prohibited the Munsiffs from passing decrees *ex parte* against Mundas, Mankis, Kols and other such ignorant people. The Principal Assistant, Dr Davidson, appears to have first issued and enforced this rule in 1838. "He had," says Mr. Ricketts, "ascertained that ignorant persons of the classes above mentioned would, when served with processes, abscond or conceal themselves, or confess judgment, though the plaintiff had no claim whatever against them, from fear of the Courts." History appears to repeat itself almost

invariably in the relations of the Courts to the aborigines. When the Code of Civil Procedure was extended to the division, this salutary rule of the Principal Assistant became obsolete, and the evils, which Dr. Davidson foresaw, began to flourish. Numerous fraudulent *ex parte* decrees were obtained against the ignorant Mundas and other aborigines, and this was one of the minor causes of the subsequent agrarian discontent. Dr. Davidson's rule is, of course, unsuited to more modern conditions. The aborigines have greatly improved in intelligence since those days; but, when the rules regulating the service of processes under the present Tenancy Act were being framed recently, it was still considered necessary to take special precaution against fraud and to secure that they were served personally, as far as that is possible.

67. *Police thanas established*.—A police thana paid for by Government was established at Lohardaga, and zamindari thanas were set up at Palkot, where the Raja resided, and on the estates of the zamindars of Barwai, Bundu, Tamar, Silli, and Bantahajam. The expenses of the latter thanas were at first defrayed by the Raja.

Mr. Ricketts reported on the state of the police service in 1855, as follows:—

"There are seven police thanas with the usual establishment; and ten zamindars, holding under the Raja of Nagpur, have the management of the police within their respective mahals. About three-fifths of the district are embraced by the seven thanas, the remaining two-fifths are comprised in the ten zamindaris. In two of the zamindaris, there are darogas named by the zamindars; in eight there are muharrirs, also named by the zamindars. Four of the thanas are now under the Assistant stationed at Korunda, and one zamindari, Silledagh, is under the same authority. In six zamindaris, all orders are addressed to the zamindars, who have charge of the police. In four, the orders are directed to the muharrirs, who are appointed by the zamindars to assist in the performance of the police duties. In one *rehas*, as the zamindar, the Raja of Nagpur, does not reside in the estate, orders are necessarily sent to the muharrir, who does. In Barwai, the possessors of the estate being women, the muharrir receives the orders, and conducts the duties. In Silli, the zamindari being attached in execution of a decree, the police have been taken out of the hands of the "Raja." The possessor of Silledagh in Palamau holds land on condition of paying the police; but, as he has no further concern with the establishment, the orders are addressed to the paid police officer.

The Principal Assistant represents that the zamindari police is inefficient, that the zamindars are generally ignorant, and either unwilling or unable to perform their duties, and the establishment employed under them are so underpaid that it is hopeless to expect good service from them. The muharrirs receive Rs. 6, many of the barkandazes Re. 1-8, which is a quarter less than is paid to a coolie for the commonest manual labour. The Assistant represents that the only remedy is the abolition of the zamindari system, and the establishment of a regular paid police in its stead. The Governor-General's Agent also represents that what he has seen of the zamindari police has not given him a favourable impression of them.

No information is procurable as to the terms on which the police were originally left in the hands of the zamindars. Whether they are bound to keep them in a state of efficiency, whether the expenses were limited, cannot be ascertained. The Principal Assistant, Captain W. Oakes, is of opinion that for the sum paid by the zamindars, a more efficient establishment could be kept up, were the police placed directly under the Assistant. In short, the Assistant considers the zamindars as impeding rather than forwarding efficient management.

There can be no doubt that an honest, able, and active zamindar, with the power of a daroga, might afford most efficient assistance to good government, while the power of a zamindar of opposite character to do mischief is immeasurably increased by leaving the police in his hands.

Circumstances are much altered since the police were placed in the hands of these zamindars, and careful inquiry appears called for, as to the necessity of longer continuing a system, which places the duties of the police in the hands of those whom the Principal Assistant reports are either unable or unwilling to perform them."

68. *Police cess*.—In 1838, the zamindars, on whose estates thanas had been established, agreed to pay an additional sum of 4 per cent. for the upkeep of the thanas. The Raja continued to bear the expenses of the Palkot thana, and exercised police powers within that jurisdiction, and his subordinate tenure-holders began to exercise the powers of a daroga within their own estates. By a subsequent arrangement, the Raja and his subordinate zamindars were authorized to collect police cess at a fixed sum of Rs. 2 or Rs. 3 per village from their under-tenure-holders and raiyats, and the burden was transferred to their shoulders. In case of misconduct or misuse of powers, the

district officer realized the cess and paid the police. This system continued till the introduction of the new constabulary in 1863, when, according to the provisions of Act V of 1861, the police powers of the zamindars were abolished.

69. *Total Police cess.*—The total police cess realized throughout the district seems to have been insignificant. Colonel Dalton reported it to be Rs. 3,781 only.

70. *Thanas how established.*—It does not appear under what authority this system of zamindari police originated. It seems most likely that it was imposed by the first Agent, Captain Wilkinson, after consultation with the zamindars concerned.

Colonel Dalton inclines to this opinion. "The fact is," he writes, "the zamindars and the people generally after the disturbances and anarchy they had been subjected to, were quite willing to acquiesce in any arrangements which the first Agent, Captain Wilkinson, proposed for their benefit."

71. *The new Constabulary.*—By the establishment of an organized system of police paid for and managed by Government in 1863, the Raja of Chota Nagpur and his subordinate tenure-holders were relieved of a considerable burden, which was likely to increase with the progress of time. By the terms of the Raja's covenants with Government, he was bound to make provision for the protection of life and property within his territory and these duties were frequently enforced. Though he was relieved of the entire burden, it appears that he was required to make only a small pecuniary contribution to the upkeep of the new police. He was, therefore, treated with liberality in this matter in contrast to the somewhat illiberal treatment, which he appears to have received in the matter of the excise and *sayer* duties.

72. *Head-quarters of district removed to Kishanpur.*—In 1842, the head-quarters of the Lohardaga district was removed to Kishanpur. There was, it appears, a small jail at the latter place, and a medical officer at Doranda close by. It was anticipated that by the use of the jail buildings a saving would be effected, and the advantage of proximity to Doranda in case of illness of the officials was also urged. This step was carried through despite the opposition of Dr. Davidson, the Assistant in charge of Lohardaga. At the same time, the name Kishanpur, the head-quarters of the Agency, was changed to Ranchi; but the district continued to be known as Lohardaga up to 1899, when the name was changed to Ranchi.

73. *Appointment of Deputy Commissioner.*—From the time of the first establishment of the Agency, the Agent exercised the powers of a Civil and Sessions Judge in the territories under his control. In 1843 he was relieved of these functions, and an officer was appointed under the title of Deputy Commissioner to discharge them. Captain Hannington, the first Deputy Commissioner, was appointed on a salary of Rs. 1,500 per mensem. It was contemplated that the Deputy Commissioner should be employed almost entirely in judicial work; but he was at first placed under the superintendence of the Agent, who was empowered to issue necessary instructions to him regarding procedure and the exercise of his duties. The Deputy Commissioner held sessions and heard appeals in civil cases from the district officers. He appears to have corresponded direct with the *Sadar Nizamat* and *Dewani Adalat*; but he was virtually subordinate to the Agent until the provisions of the Codes of Civil and Criminal Procedure were extended to the division. The Civil Procedure Code was extended in 1859, and the Criminal Procedure Code in 1861.

74. *Title of Deputy Commissioner changed to Judicial Commissioner.*—By a notification, dated the 30th April, 1861, the title of Deputy Commissioner was changed to Judicial Commissioner, and the Principal Assistant to the Governor-General's Agent was directed to be styled in future Deputy Commissioner. By a notification dated the 28th May, 1864, the Judicial Commissioner was vested with the powers of a Sessions Judge under the Criminal Procedure Code, and the Deputy Commissioners were vested with the powers of a principal *Sadar amin* (*Sub-Judge*).

75. *Regulation XX of 1854.*—By Regulation XX of 1854, an important change was introduced. The duties and powers conferred by Regulation XIII of 1833 were no longer to be vested in the Agent to the Governor-General, but in an officer to be appointed by the Local Government.

76. Commissioner appointed.—The title of the chief executive officer of the division was soon after changed to that of Commissioner, and the territory, hitherto known as the South-West Frontier Agency, became a non-regulation province under the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. The division of Lohardaga became a non-regulation district.

77. Foundation of Palamau subdivision, 1860.—From 1852 one of the Agent's junior Assistants was in charge of what was then known as the Korundah subdivision with jurisdiction over the greater part of the present district of Palamau. In 1859 the Local Government ordered that a subdivision should be permanently located in Palamau, and in 1860 the subdivision was established with head-quarters at Leslieganj. The head-quarters of the subdivision was removed to Daltonganj in 1863.

78. The Mutiny.—In 1857 the storm of the Mutiny broke. At that time a considerable force, known as the Ramgarh battalion, was stationed at Doranda, close to Ranchi. On the 2nd August, the infantry and artillery sections of the battalion mutinied, released the prisoners in the jail, burnt and looted the houses of the European officials, and fired with the six-pounder guns at the German Mission Church, evidently with the intention of demolishing the edifice. The officers, civil and military, however, escaped, and succeeded in reaching Hazaribagh in safety. The mutineers remained in possession of Ranchi till the first week of September, when they quitted the place, and marched to Chatra, where they were easily defeated by a detachment of Her Majesty's 53rd, and a detachment of Rathray's Sikhs, after a combat of an hour's duration. Ranchi was reoccupied on the 22nd September. The destruction wrought by the mutineers and their followers was considerable. Many of the records, which were stored in the Commissioner's office, were either destroyed or disarranged. The Government treasury, including stamped papers, postage labels and opium, had been plundered. The senior Assistant's katcheri (office) was destroyed by fire, and the English and a great portion of the vernacular records destroyed with it. The records in the record-room were found in the greatest confusion, having been all torn down from their shelves. The bundles had been opened, and the contents disarranged, and many had been flung into an adjoining well. Owing to this vandalism on the part of the mutineers and their followers, many valuable documents, relating to the history of estates and tenures and the administration, have been irretrievably lost.

79. Revenue law, 1833-79.—From the foundation of the Agency till the passing of Act X of 1859, it does not appear that there was any Code of law in force, which prescribed a procedure for the disposal of revenue suits, or for the realization of revenue. The Courts in this district, as well as in the rest of Chota Nagpur followed, however, the old summary suit laws (Regulations V of 1800 and VII of 1837). In 1859 the Commissioner submitted a proposal to the Board of Revenue for the introduction of Act X of 1859 throughout the division with some modifications and omissions. The Board questioned the expediency of the proposals, and strongly objected to the proposal for extending the distraint clauses of the Act for the benefit of the Lohardaga land-owners. They said "the *dhangar* Kols must be very much altered from what they have been represented to be before distraint under the Act can safely be introduced into that portion of the territory." The Act was not introduced, but the existing procedure was modified to some extent in accordance with its spirit, save that appeals continued to lie for some time to the Commissioner, instead of to the Judge and the High Court.

Eventually, however, the Commissioner ordered that the procedure laid down in the Act regarding appeals should also be followed, and, by the year 1869, all the provisions of the Act were generally followed except that, in Lohardaga district, the distraint clauses (sections 112—145) were not acted on, and the sections relating to sale of land (sections 105—111) were applied in all the districts, subject to the restrictions that no sale could be effected without the permission of the Commissioner. Act X of 1859 was never actually declared in force in Ranchi district, though the High Court appear to have held that it was in force in the whole of Chota Nagpur. The correctness of this decision is, however, open to doubt, in view of the provisions of Regulation XIII of 1833, which were in full force when Act X of 1859 was enacted, and the Commissioner and the local authorities did not themselves consider that

the Act was in force. The special necessities of Chota Nagpur do not appear to have been considered before the Act was passed, and it does not appear likely, therefore, that it was intended to have the force of law in this division.

80. *The Chota Nagpur Tenures Act [Act II (B.C.) of 1869.]*—The agitation, which led to the passing of the Chota Nagpur Tenures Act, and the subsequent survey and demarcation of certain tenures are important landmarks in the agrarian history of the district. It has been shown above that the influx of hordes of middlemen gradually led to the great Kol insurrection of 1831-32. About this time not only were the village headmen, the Mankis and the Mundas, being supplanted, but the raiyats were being deprived of the oldest and most valuable lands in the villages by the new comers. In effect little or no redress could be obtained by the aborigines. The old local ruler had been deprived of administrative powers, and the British Courts sat at Sherghati or at Chatra. As far as most of the aborigines were concerned, they might as well have been at Delhi. The rising of the Kols cleared the country of aliens for a time; but, the insurrection was put down with a strong hand, and, though several remedial measures were passed, the havoc and destruction wrought by the aborigines during the brief period of their ascendancy, had naturally exasperated the landlords. They retaliated severely, and a considerable disturbance of peasant proprietary tenure undoubtedly occurred. Many Kols, who had abandoned the country, returned in subsequent years; but, as they had acted the parts of incendiaries and insurgents, the *thiccadars* and proprietors refused to give them back their lands. Thus, though the establishment of the British Courts of justice in 1834 did a great deal to check the most glaring abuses, it did little to remove the causes of the deep-seated agrarian discontent. The "simple Kol" was at this period considered no match for the zamindar whenever a dispute arose. The coming of the missionaries changed this aspect of affairs to some extent. In 1845, the German Lutheran Mission was established at Ranchi. During the early years of the Mission very little progress was made in mission work; but, by the year 1857, the missionaries had a considerable following. Several of the Christians had successfully asserted their rights in the Courts before that year. They were becoming a powerful and organized society, and the aboriginal Christians, backed by the moral and sometimes by the financial support of the European missionaries, were very different persons whether in the Courts or in the villages to the aboriginals of the primitive village community. An impression rapidly gained ground in consequence that to become Christian was the best means of successfully shaking off the oppression of the landlord. In consequence of this state of affairs, the landlords persecuted the Christians during the absence of the executive authorities after the mutiny; but, when the latter returned, the Christians were to some extent compensated for their losses, and an impression gained ground that they were a class specially favoured by Government. "The result of this," says Colonel Dalton (1859), "has been a great accession of strength to the ranks of nominal Christians. A reasonable desire to be reinstated in *bhuinhari* lands actuated some, a dishonest wish to become one of this favoured family of *bhuinhars* seized others. The next step was to profess Christianity, and going up to Ranchi to the mission, they returned with their hair puritanically cropped and ready to assert their rights and defy their landlords." These nominal Christians, emboldened by their success, appear to have forcibly repossessed themselves in several parganas of the lands which they or their ancestors had lost, claiming them as their *bhuinhari*. The struggle went on for some years, the zamindars endeavouring to retain what they had got, and the raiyats endeavouring to retake what they had lost and sometimes more. Several serious affrays took place in different parts of the district, attended with loss of life, and it thus became necessary to have a thorough investigation made with a view to remedy these disorders. The German missionaries, who were then the only missionary body working in the country, appear to have adopted a theory that the Mundas and Uraons freely gave up half the fields of their villages for the maintenance of the Raja, when he was first elected, on the condition that they held the other, the better half, free of rent themselves, and that they continued to do so till the establishment of the British Courts in 1834. From that period, it was said, oppression began. The facts appear to

be that, previous to that period, the British Courts being remote and inaccessible, there was no continuous record of oppression, and each petty chief and zamindar ruled and governed his own slice of territory according to his disposition. The result of this system was the great insurrection of 1831-32. There is no evidence whatsoever in support of the theory that half the land was reserved for the Raja. As the claim to half the lands rent-free was evidently capable of indefinite expansion, it was a very convenient theory for adoption by the turbulent raiyats, who dreamt of recovering their ancient status through the agency of Christianity. It appears to be, however, certain that from the earliest days the Hindu landlords and middlemen had always recognized the right of the descendants of the original clearers of the villages to hold certain lands called *bhuinhari* either rent-free or at a quit-rent. The *bhuinhars* were obliged to render certain feudal services, such as accompanying the landlord on his journeys, cultivating his khas lands, and repairing his house. Dr. Davidson, in his well-known report, dated the 29th August, 1839, refers to this well-known custom. Among the primitive communities of Mundas and Uraons, it is certain that the reclamer of a patch of land in the jungle was regarded as its owner. As the community progressed, he paid a slight tribute or rendered slight service to the village chief; but, his status as a *bhuinhar* or pioneer, or descendant of a *bhuinhar* was always regarded as vastly higher than that of the later comers, who had settled on the land when the village was established. The Hindus, no doubt, at first fully recognized this custom. But, as their numbers increased in the first half of the nineteenth century, the pressure on the land increased, and they began to demand tribute or rent from the *bhuinhars* as well as from the ordinary raiyats. The *bhuinhars* resisted, clinging tenaciously to the ancient custom. As the parties became exasperated, extravagant claims were made on both sides. The landlords, while acknowledging the privileged character of *bhuinhari* lands, were not willing to admit their existence in any but a few of the oldest villages, while the whole body of raiyats, on the other hand, began to advance claims to the privileges of *bhuinhars*. Finally the opposing parties began to dispossess each other by force. Some experimental investigations were made by an official named Lal Loki Nath Sahi, but they did not meet with much success.

In order to settle these disputes authoritatively and finally, Act II of 1869 was passed by the Bengal Council. Under the Act, special Commissioners were appointed, who had power to survey and demarcate the privileged lands of the tenants (*bhuinhari*) and the landlords (*manjhihas*). The *bhuinhari* lands were held to include the lands locally known as *bhutkheta*, *dalikatarai*, *pahanai* and *mahatoai*. The *manjhihas* lands correspond to the *nij jote* lands of the zamindars in Bengal, with this difference that they are held to be at the "absolute disposal" of the landlords, and occupancy rights cannot accrue in them in any circumstances whatsoever. The special Commissioners had power to restore to possession persons, who had been wrongfully dispossessed of lands "of *bhuinhari* or *manjhihas* tenure" at any period within twenty years before the passing of the Act, and the record was declared final and conclusive of the incidents of the tenures recorded. It was further provided that from and after the publication of the register containing the record-of-rights relating to any village "no evidence shall be received that any lands in such village not mentioned in such register are of *bhuinhari* or *manjhihas* tenure."

The operations, which commenced on the 1st April, 1869, were not concluded till the 31st March, 1880, having occupied just eleven years. The enquiries extended to 2,482 villages in Ranchi district, and the total cost amounted to Rs. 2,69,887, the whole of which was borne by Government. Having regard to the fact that the area surveyed and demarcated did not amount to more than one-twenty-fifth of the total area of the district, and that the detailed survey was not preceded by, and based on, a professional traverse survey, it is clear that the operations were unduly protracted and that the cost was excessive. The quality of the survey and demarcation was, however, excellent and very much superior to the similar kind of work, which was done in the ghatwali survey in parganas Barahabhum and Dhalbhum at a later period. The first Special Commissioner, Babu Rakhal Das Haldar, an officer whose name is very well known throughout the district, was mainly responsible for the work from the initiation of the operations.

81. Defects of the Act.—The operations undertaken under the Act, though successful to some extent in the areas in which they were carried out, were a mere palliative of the disorders which prevailed throughout the district as a whole. Act II of 1869 was itself defective, in that it failed to define or even to describe with any degree of accuracy the tenures which were to be surveyed. The preamble to the Act states that “certain tenures have existed in Chota Nagpur, known as *bhuinhari*, held by persons claiming to be descendants of the original founders of the villages.”

There was no further definition. It is also difficult to determine from the final report on the operations what criterion was applied by the officers themselves to the determination of the question what constituted *bhuinhari*, and, as a matter of fact, the decisions were in some cases at least of an arbitrary character, and consequently somewhat unsatisfactory. The most satisfactory feature of the operations was their finality. The decisions were certainly not in all cases correct; but, it was in any case better to set at rest once for all disputes, which had caused so much strife and bloodshed, and which were quite incapable of settlement by the ordinary Courts of the district.

82. *Bhuinhari* not defined in Act I of 1879.—The failure to define the meaning of *bhuinhari* or *khuntkatti*, which is a local variant for *bhuinhari*, was a mistake, which was perpetuated when the Rent Act [Act I (B. C.) of 1879] was enacted. The provisions relating to *bhuinhari* and *khuntkatti*, which were contained in section 19 of the Act, were as follows:—

“No tenant of lands known as *bhuinhari* or *khuntkatti* shall be liable to any enhancement of the rent previously paid by him for such lands, unless it be shown that the tenure has been created within twenty years before the institution of the suit to enhance the rent of the said lands; and, when the enhancement of the rent of such tenures is decreed, the rent assessed shall not exceed one-half of the rent paid by an ordinary raiyat with a right of occupancy in the same class of land with similar advantages.” The local Courts, in ignorance of the local customary rights attaching to this class of tenancy and of the exact meaning of the terms, failed altogether to give effect to these provisions. The provisions of the law were in fact entirely disregarded, until Mr. Lister started the settlement operations in the Munda country, and it was then re-discovered that one of the most common tenures in that part of the country, which had been practically excluded from the scope of the *bhuinhari* survey, was the *khuntkatti* tenure. The fact seems to prove clearly that the Mundas were in reality no match for their landlords in the Courts, notwithstanding the spread of Christianity among them, and that the Courts were unable to dispense justice effectively, with due regard to local customs and usages, without the help of an intermediate agency, which based its decisions mainly on the results of local enquiries.

83. Other defects of the *bhuinhari* survey.—The other great defects of the *bhuinhari* survey were that its operations were extended only to the privileged tenures; its scope was limited in practice to a portion of the district, and no attempt was made to commute to money payments, prædial dues and services, which had even at that time begun to be a perpetual source of strife between landlords and tenants. There was, it is true, a section in the Act, which provided for the voluntary commutation of services (*begari*); but small advantage was taken of it, and the number of applications for commutation amounted to 1,161 only. The operations were not extended to the *khuntkatti* area of the Munda country, and the door was thus left open for future trouble. No attempt was made to deal with the disputes about the ordinary raiyati lands, which comprised the great bulk of the cultivated area, with the result that, when the *bhuinhari* cases came to an end, the struggle about the raiyati lands (*rajhas*) commenced or was renewed with fresh vigour. The operations were hardly completed, when the Commissioner expressed the opinion that a satisfactory solution of the land troubles could not be arrived at except by a complete survey and settlement of the district; but the Local Government of the day did not consider this indispensable, and financial considerations prevailed at the time. A compulsory commutation of prædial dues and services was also essential.

84. The Maharaja's title.—Up to about the middle of the nineteenth century, the Chota Nagpur Chief is almost invariably referred to in correspondence as the Raja. It appears, however, that he was locally known as the Maharaja; and, in 1872 the Government of India formally recognized that

title as hereditary in the family (Foreign Department No. 2392P., dated the 23rd December, 1872).

85. *Chota Nagpur Encumbered Estates Act, Act VI of 1876.*—In 1876 the Chota Nagpur Encumbered Estates Act was passed. The objects and reasons were stated to be:—

“The accumulation of debts and the sale of large ancestral estates, in satisfaction thereof, is a process calculated to cause trouble in most parts of India. This is notably the case in the districts on the western frontier of Bengal, which are comprised in the Chota Nagpur province. In these districts there are many landed proprietors of a rank equal to that of chiefs, who are yet improvident and apt to run into debts to an extent which exposes their estates to danger of being brought to sale. If such sale takes place, troubles arise between the purchaser and the villagers, and the rights of the cultivators are likely to be imperilled.

Previously to 1859, when the Civil Procedure Code was introduced, the Commissioner and his subordinates exercised powers similar to those which have been subsequently conferred on the authorities in Oudh by Act No. XXIV of 1870, that is to say, when an estate became so encumbered as to be in danger of being brought to sale, the local authorities took up all the debts, stopped all actions by the Court of justice in regard thereto, prevented the chief from contracting any fresh debts, arranged to discharge the ascertained amounts of just debts, and for this purpose managed the estate, allowing the proprietor a fair maintenance until all obligations were cleared off. These proceedings did in those days provide an effective remedy. But since 1859, it has been found legally difficult or impossible to continue them. The local authorities indeed have interfered in an indirect way, and so practically averted mischief. But any effective action in this direction would be really beyond their powers. Inasmuch as the evil of indebtedness still exists, and it is desirable that our officers should have a clearly lawful warrant for what they may have to do, it seems desirable to have authority by law for a procedure similar to that which prevailed before 1859. For this purpose, the present Bill has been framed on the model of Act No. XXIV of 1870 (for the relief of encumbered estates in Oudh).”

The Government had been always averse to the selling of large estates in the province. Prior to 1833, only two large estates had been sold. In the year 1798, the great estate of Pachete was sold for arrears of revenue; but the whole country rose against its transfer to an alien, and after a year or two of military operations, the sale was cancelled. Palamau was purchased by Government in 1820, at a sale for arrears of revenue. The people were, however, sullen and discontented. They joined in the Kol insurrection in 1831, and again gave considerable trouble during and after the mutiny of 1857. With these examples and the recorded experience of the local officers to guide him, Sir Thomas Wilkinson, the first Agent to the Governor-General, introduced stringent rules, which were sanctioned by Government, prohibiting the sale or transfer of landed property on any account whatsoever, without the Agent's consent. In addition, it became customary for the Agent and his Assistants to interfere in, and decide summarily, questions between debtors and creditors; but, when Act VIII of 1859 (the Civil Code of the day) was extended to Chota Nagpur, it was considered that this latter power could no longer be effectively exercised. When, however, application was made to the Commissioner for sanction to the sale of estates, according to the terms of the proviso to the notification extending the Civil Code, as a rule he refused to allow the sale, when it was found that the assets were sufficient to meet the liabilities within a reasonable time.

There were some officials and others then as now, who questioned the justice and the expediency of the policy of protection. But, the more experienced officers, like Colonel Dalton, who had an insight into the character of the people and the customs of the country, strongly urged the political necessity of preventing the supersession of the old families by aliens; and, this policy carried the day. “The protection afforded,” says Colonel Dalton, “has for its object the preservation of old families from ruin, and the maintenance of the ties, which exist between the old settlers and their hereditary chiefs.”

Act VI of 1876 was accordingly passed, and the Commissioner was empowered, with the previous sanction of the Lieutenant-Governor, to appoint a manager and to vest in him the entire management of encumbered estates, whenever he thought fit to do so. On publication of the vesting order, all proceedings in the Courts, including processes of execution for debts, become barred; the holder of the property is not liable to arrest for debt, and the power to alienate any portion of the estate is vested in the manager.

The Act was amended by Act V (B.C.) of 1884, and again by Act III (B.C.) of 1909. It is unnecessary to discuss the objects of these amendments here.

By the enactment of Act VI of 1876, the executive authorities were again enabled to exercise effectively the same powers which they exercised prior to the extension of Act VIII of 1859 to the districts of Hazaribagh, Lohardaga, Manbhum and part of Singhbhum. At the time when the Act was passed, it was undoubtedly a political necessity. Notwithstanding frequent bickerings, the relations of landlords and tenants were still at that period regulated according to feudal theories, and the transfer of the old estates to aliens could hardly fail to have been calamitous.

86. *Act VI of 1876 no longer necessary.*—Very great changes have occurred, however, in the relations of landlords and tenants in Ranchi district during the last 30 years, due mainly to two causes, the operations of the Settlement department, and the expansion of the Christian missions. During the settlement operations, all feudal dues and services have been commuted to money payments, and their cash values amalgamated with the money-rent. The annual charges due by the raiyat are noted in prosaic *khatians*, and these entries are conclusive against the landlord. The civil and revenue Courts have no jurisdiction to interfere. The educative influence of the operations has been also in other respects enormous. The raiyats know very well what their rights are with respect to the taking of jungle produce, property in trees, and grazing rights. The result is that the relations of landlord and tenant are now regulated on the basis of the settlement *khatians*, and the patriarchal system has been succeeded by a system of contract. It is undoubtedly better so.

The influence of the European missionaries has tended in the same direction. In those parts of the district, where the Christians are numerous and increasing, the prestige and power of the European missionary are enormous. The raiyats look to him in time of stress. He is not merely the spiritual head of the village communities, but their adviser and guide in all temporal matters as well; and he has altogether supplanted the zamindar's and 'indeed' the official's influence in large tracts throughout the district.

It is, therefore, safe to assert that the causes, which led to the enactment of Act VI of 1876, have ceased to operate in Ranchi district, and that the Act is no longer a political necessity within this area. The sale of even the oldest and largest estates would now create no ferment whatsoever among the cultivators. There are, however, other reasons, which may render it desirable to continue the protection, which has been afforded to the old zamindars, for some time to come.

87. *Administration of the Act.*—The Act has not always been worked by the executive authorities in accordance with the intentions of its framers. Numerous small and unimportant estates have been from time to time taken under management, and, at the present time, one of the largest estates under management belongs to a family of money-lenders, who were certainly never considered "hereditary chiefs," and whose relations with their tenants have never been guided by a spirit of patriarchal benevolence.

88. *Estates under management with demands.*—The following table shows the number of estates under management at present, together with the total demands and other details:—

Number of estates.	Area in square miles.	Total demand.	Annual amount of maintenance paid to disqualified proprietors.	Cost of management.	Percentage of cost of management to total demand.
87	1,914	Rs. 2,27,740	Rs. 25,443	Rs. 22,205	9.7

The largest estate under management is the Armai estate with a total area of 414 square miles, and a total demand of Rs. 28,609. There are only three

estates with an area of over 200 square miles, viz., Tamar, Armai and Biru. There are eight estates with an area of less than 10 square miles and a total annual demand of less than Rs. 2,500. In the case of only twelve estates does the total annual demand exceed Rs. 5,000. Over one quarter of the total area of the district is under the Encumbered Estates' management.

89. *Procedure in suits for arrears of rent and prædial dues.*—We have seen above that the Courts followed the procedure laid down in Act X of 1859 in the trial of suits and applications regarding rent. It was from the first recognized that several of the provisions of the Act were unsuitable for application generally throughout the division. The sections regarding distraint of crops for arrears of rent were regarded as particularly unsuitable for application in Lohardaga district, where it was considered that the wild Kols would not submit peaceably to the exercise of such arbitrary authority by their landlords; and section 10, which practically prohibited the realization of *abwabs* of every kind was, by a general consensus of opinion, regarded as unduly harsh on the landlords.

The High Court actually ruled that, as Act X of 1859 was in force, no cesses could be levied (*Urjain Sahi v. Anand Singh*, 10 W. R., 257). These cesses under various denominations, such as *abwabs*, *mangan* and *mahtut*, had been levied from ancient times in many cases, and had been paid by the raiyats without objection, as long as the demands of the landlords continued to be moderate and reasonable, and in accordance with local custom.

The ruling of the High Court appears to have created a considerable amount of consternation among the intelligent landlords, as it followed that, if the lower Courts gave effect to it, half or more than half of their incomes must disappear. From the point of view of the law, the landlords had also a good deal of right on their side. As stated above, it was extremely unlikely that Act X was in force at all, though the Courts, under the orders of the Commissioner, had for many years adhered to its spirit, with certain modifications. The section of the Act forbidding the collections of *abwabs* was based on the provisions of Regulation VIII of 1793, under which zamindars were required to consolidate all existing *abwabs*, and were prohibited from imposing any new ones. But the Ramgarh district, in which Lohardaga and Hazaribagh were included, was by Regulation IV of 1794 specially exempted from the operation of this enactment, and it was, therefore, unfair to apply the provisions of section 10 of Act X of 1859 in these areas. Mr. Oliphant, the Deputy Commissioner of Lohardaga, writing in 1875, put the case forcibly thus:—

“It is quite sufficient to remark that, seeing that this part of the country (Lohardaga) was exempted by Regulation IV of 1794 from the operation of section 54 of Regulation VIII of 1793, it is obviously unfair to force on the country a law, which prohibits the levy of all cesses, without affording the zamindars an opportunity in the first instance of commuting their cesses to rent.”

90. *The Chota Nagpur Landlord and Tenant Procedure Act (Act I of 1879).*—It was, therefore, obvious that the peculiarities of tenures and customs in Chota Nagpur required that the relations of landlords and tenants should be regulated by a special procedure. Act I of 1879, the Chota Nagpur Landlord and Tenant Procedure Act, was accordingly passed by the Bengal Council. The main provisions of the Act were based on Act X of 1859; but the provisions regarding distraint and enhancement of rent contained in the latter Act were omitted. Tenants of lands locally known as *bhuinhari*, *khuntkatti* and *korkar* were protected from enhancement, except under certain conditions and circumstances (sections 19 and 20), and a special procedure was laid down for the enhancement of the rent of other occupancy raiyats (section 21). It was still thought advisable to continue the restrictions on the sale of landed property observed in the province, and it was accordingly declared that no under-tenure could be sold for arrears of rent without the consent of the Commissioner (section 123). Lastly, landlords were allowed the option of applying for the commutation of any conditions or services to which their tenants were liable in addition to their money-rents (sections 25 and 26). The Act was extended to the territory for the time being under the administration of the Commissioner of the Division, except the district of Manbhum and the Tributary Mahals.

91. *Re-extension of the Regulations.*—Under Regulation XIII of 1833, the operation of the Regulations had been suspended. But this order only extended so as to prevent rules and Regulations passed prior to its coming into force having effect. Regulation XIII was never repealed; but it did not follow that each and every Act or Regulation, which was enacted subsequently to the date of that Regulation, was not in force. For instance, Acts such as the Indian Penal Code, which were expressly extended to the whole of British India, were undoubtedly in force; but other Acts and Regulations, which were declared to be in force throughout the province of Bengal, except the scheduled districts, which included the Chota Nagpur division, were not in force, unless they had been extended by special notification.

An exhaustive enquiry was made in 1877-78 to find out what Acts and Regulations were actually in force. The enquiry elicited the fact that there was considerable confusion in procedure and much doubt as to which particular Acts and Regulations had the force of law in the districts of the division. The fact that Act XIII of 1833 removed the districts from the operation of the Regulations and rules, which had been passed prior to that date, appears to have been lost sight of to a great extent, and by degrees affairs began to be conducted on much the same lines as in the Regulation districts, though several of the Acts and Regulations were not in force.

The final solution adopted was to declare in force the enactments, which were known to be in force, as well as those according to the spirit of which the administration had been carried on.

In 1881 notifications were accordingly issued by the Government of Bengal under the powers conferred by section 3 of the Scheduled Districts Act (Act XIV of 1874) declaring the enactments in force in, and to be extended to, the districts of the Chota Nagpur Division. Copies of the notifications are printed in Appendix X.

The Government of India, in sanctioning the issue of the notifications, left it to the Government of Bengal to draw the attention of the local officers to any separate notifications then in force extending Acts, which were not included in the schedules. The schedules are not, therefore, exhaustive. By the extension of these enactments, the administration of the district was definitely assimilated to the administration of the Regulation districts. The district is still classed as non-Regulation; but, though there are still a few special laws, notably the Rent Law, in force, the general administration is to all intents and purposes carried on on the same lines and on the same principles as in the Regulation districts.

92. *Mr. Slack's Settlement of the Chota Nagpur estate.*—In 1876, the Government of Bengal ordered that the Chota Nagpur estate, which was then under the management of the Court of Wards, should be surveyed, and the work was commenced by Captain Sanderson of the Survey department with a professional party in the year 1877-78. It was soon found, however, that the estate could not bear the cost of the survey, and the services of the professional party were dispensed with on the 8th October, 1878. Plans were subsequently submitted, and sanctioned by Government for a survey of the estate on more economical lines by a non-professional party, working under the manager of the estate. The operations were resumed in 1880, and Mr. Smart, an officer of the Survey of India, with a non-professional party of amins, was deputed to do the survey. The operations began in November 1880, and were completed in March 1885. The survey was made on the plane table system on the scale of 16 inches to the mile, small fields and homesteads being shown in the margins of the maps on the 32-inch scale. Mr. Slack joined as Divisional Settlement Officer on the 5th January, 1885, and the settlement of rents throughout the whole estate and the commutation of all prædial dues and services were carried out by him. The estate embraces practically the whole of Chota Nagpur Proper (Ranchi district and pargana Tori of Palamau district). But, as the survey and settlement operations were confined to villages, which were in the *khas* possession of the Maharaja, only about one-twelfth of this area came under the scope of the operations. The total area surveyed, and for which a record-of-rights was prepared, amounted to 742 square miles. Rents were settled on all cultivated lands, except lands of *bhuinhari* or *manjhihas*

tenure, which had been already finally dealt with under the Chota Nagpur Tenures Act, and the lands of some 38 villages, of which it was found subsequent to the survey that the Maharaja was not in direct possession. Rents were settled accordingly throughout an area of 610 square miles on the cultivated portion which aggregated 1,66,000 acres, or 259 square miles. The whole of this latter area is included within the district of Ranchi. The total cost of the operations amounted to Rs. 2,00,546, which gives an incidence of 7 annas $3\frac{1}{2}$ pies per acre, excluding the area of 38 villages which were wrongly supposed to be open to settlement and which were merely surveyed. The total rental of the estate was raised from Rs. 88,653 to Rs. 1,05,603, or 19 per cent.

The work was not carried out under the authority of any law or rules having the force of law; but the decisions, especially the rent settlement, were accepted by the proprietor and by the vast majority of the raiyats. The fairness of the settlement is demonstrated by the fact that less than three per cent. of the raiyats refused to sign the *jamabandis* in token of accepting the rents as fixed by the Settlement Officer. The operations were completed in 1888. A full account of the survey and settlement proceedings will be found in Mr. Slacke's Settlement Report. As to the general and permanent utility of the survey and settlement operations of the Maharaja's estate, there can be no doubt. The accuracy of the maps has been tested minutely during the recent settlement and against cadastral maps prepared with greater elaboration and based on a professional traverse. They were found to be remarkably correct. The general results and the rent settlement were acquiesced in from the start, and, after 20 years, when the whole estate has been again surveyed in the course of the general district operations, the agrarian conditions, which were found to prevail in the Maharaja's *khas* villages, presented a striking contrast to the conditions prevailing in the neighbouring villages. In the former, there were few disputes as to the ownership of land; there was little dispossession or disturbance of the cultivating tenancies, and there were no disputes as to the incidence of rates of rent and prædial dues. It is well known that vast numbers of Mundas and Uraons have joined the Christian missions during the last 20 years, for the sake of the support and advice, which they receive from the missionaries in their struggles with their landlords. If, however, a detailed examination of the statistics of the Christian missions were made, it will be found that Christianity has made comparatively little progress in the Maharaja's villages, and, though I do not mean to suggest that Christianity does not make for the material as well as the moral advancement of the aborigines as a whole, the fact is a striking proof of the efficacy of settlement operations as a sedative of agrarian discontent, which has been in the past the main factor among the causes, which have rendered missionary efforts successful in this part of India.

93. *Nagri or Kaithi Character prescribed for use in the Courts.*—Prior to 1881, all vernacular office papers were ordinarily written in the Urdu character. The Lieutenant-Governor ordered in a letter, dated the 30th June, 1880, that from the 1st July, 1881, the Nagri or Kaithi character should be exclusively used in all the Courts and offices of the districts of Hazaribagh, Lohardaga, and Singhbhum with the exception of Dhalbhum, in the manner prescribed in the Government Resolution dated 13th April, 1880.

94. *Continued agrarian discontent especially between the years 1886—90.*—As has been observed above, the proceedings of the special Commissioners under Act II of 1869 failed to allay the agrarian discontent throughout the district. The operations carried out by Mr. Slacke were successful in the area to which they extended; but, throughout the rest of the district, the antagonism between the landlords and tenants continued to be as strong as ever. The incidence of rent charges, and the system of collecting prædial dues (*rakumats*) and levying prædial services (*bethbegari*) were unfailing sources of dispute. As the feelings of the parties became exacerbated, it was impossible for the Courts sitting at head-quarters to dispense justice with any hope of success. The state of affairs which existed is described by one of the Bhuihari Commissioners thus :—

“The zamindar demands rent at Rs. 5 per *pawa*, when in point of fact he was all along getting Rs. 5 per *pawa*; but the raiyat in his turn admits only Rs. 3 or Rs. 4 per

pawa. The zamindar demands a number of *rakumats*. The raiyats either deny their liability *in toto*, or admit only a few. The *Sadan* (Hindu) raiyats are brought forward as witnesses for the zamindar; but, in most cases, the Courts disbelieve their evidence and decree only the rents admitted by the tenants. At present there is, I believe, 'scarcely any village in the disaffected areas in which the raiyats admit what is the true rent paid by them. In most villages, they simply admit a rent of which they have acquired a knowledge from mere tradition, as the rent previously paid by their forefathers.'

Added to these disputes, a still more potent cause of irritation was the system of compulsory labour or *beth begari*. Some of the landlords put forward the most extravagant and exorbitant claims, and in fact contended that the amount of service renderable to them by their raiyats was only limited by their requirements. The zamindar of Biru, for instance, informed the Deputy Commissioner that "there is no limit to *beth begari*; whenever services are needed, they are demanded." The zamindar of another village said, "I am unable to say what number of days each raiyat works for in a month or in a year. Whenever there is work, that work has to be done." According to the evidence of several landlords, it was found in 1890 that they had been exacting 60 to 84 days' work per annum from their raiyats, as against 14 or 15 days, which was the customary due.

It is not surprising that in these circumstances there was continuous trouble in large areas throughout the district. From the year 1886 onward there was again a noteworthy movement in favour of Christianity among the raiyats. The missionaries took an active interest in the temporal interests of their congregations, and lent a sympathetic ear to the complaints of the aborigines about the heavy load of prædial services. It was reported at the time, and it was a constant subject of complaint by the zamindars that the missionaries, notably the Jesuits, who about this time began to start mission work in Ranchi on a large scale, held out hopes to the aborigines, which were utterly incapable of fulfilment, and thereby induced them to join the Christian Church. It is possible that some of the missionaries were guilty of a want of caution, and that the expressions of sympathy indulged in by them were interpreted by their agents to the excitable aborigines as conveying hopes of complete emancipation from their landlords and of a restoration of the state of affairs, which prevailed in the country before the advent of the Hindus. It is obvious, however, that the charges brought at the time against the missionaries were in the main unfounded. It is, in any case, incredible that a body of intellectual and intelligent men could have been so foolish as to hold out hopes, which they knew were quite incapable of fulfilment, and which they must have known would lead to a reaction, which was bound to destroy their prospects of success in the future. The claims of the landlords to exact unlimited services were evidently preposterous, and the missionaries very properly advised the raiyats to render only such services as were sanctioned by custom. They were also, no doubt, prepared to assist the latter in a spirit of resistance to the exorbitant demands of the landlords, and they did so in several instances. The result was that the movement in favour of Christianity among the aborigines was at once a consequence and a cause of their disputes with their landlords. Within three or four years forty thousand of them nominally joined the Roman Catholic mission, and the German Lutheran mission received considerable accessions about the same time. The influence of the ideas, which animated the Christians, permeated their non-Christian brethren, and the immediate result was a considerable disturbance of their relations with their landlords. The landlords refused to abate their exorbitant demands, and the Christian raiyats and their imitators in many villages refused to pay their ordinary rents or to render their customary services. Both sides resorted to violence in several instances, and the state of some parts of the country was disturbed, though the officials had little difficulty in maintaining order throughout the district as a whole. In the year 1890, Sir Stuart Bayley, the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, visited Ranchi and held a conference, at which several of the missionaries, representatives of the landlords, and the officials attended. It was generally agreed that a wholesale compulsory commutation to money payments of prædial dues and services was essential to the peace and prosperity of the country. Several provisions of the existing Act (Act I of

1879) had been found unsatisfactory in practice, particularly the sections regarding enhancement of rent, which left everything to the discretion of the Deputy Commissioner, without guidance from any rules or principles. It was thought that, in order to settle the agrarian difficulties finally, authority was required to make a survey of the district, and, as this authority could be obtained by the extension of the Bengal Tenancy Act, the advisability of extending its provisions to the district was considered and the proposal was received favourably in many quarters. It was, however, fully recognized that it was expedient to retain so much of Act I of 1879 as was framed with reference to the special circumstances of Chota Nagpur, viz., the provisions relating to *khuntkatti*, *bhuinhari*, and *korkar* tenancies, and the procedure for commutation of prædial services. It is noteworthy that, in these days, several of the landlords opposed the extension of the Bengal Tenancy Act. The Maharaja in a memorial, which he submitted in 1892, urged that the more comprehensive provisions of the Bengal Tenancy Act could not be worked with advantage in the absence of a definite standard of measurement without any data as to the areas of holdings and the existing rates of rent. He, therefore, suggested a complete survey and settlement of the district as a necessary preliminary. The discussions regarding the proposed alterations in the Tenancy law lasted for some years. Meanwhile, the agrarian troubles were to some extent temporarily allayed by the executive action of the authorities. The Commissioner, Mr. Grimley, issued a proclamation to the zamindars to the effect that they would not be permitted to exact labour from their tenants without any limits whatever, and at the same time he conveyed a warning to the raiyats that they were bound to render services according to custom.

95. Mr. Grimley's proclamation.—The proclamation, which was issued in April 1890, prescribed a scale of service renderable for each holding, which purported to be founded on the ancient custom of Lohardaga. The scale for a whole year was to be as follows:—

Three days' ploughing.
" " digging.
" " sowing or planting rice.
" " cutting rice.
One day's thrashing corn.
" " assistance in making granaries or carrying loads for the landlord.

The total amount of labour thus amounted to 14 days within the year. The orders were, however, issued in the exercise of executive authority and by way of warning. They had no binding effect on either the landlords or the raiyats. These measures were avowedly meant to meet the emergency, and, though partially successful at the time, their effect was transient as a solution of the problem.

96. Bill introduced.—In 1897, after several years of discussion, a Bill was introduced and passed in the Bengal Council providing for the voluntary commutation of prædial conditions and services, laying down a procedure for enhancement of rents, and regulating the registration and resumption of intermediate tenures. At the same time it was proposed to repeal Act I (B.C.) of 1879, and to extend the Bengal Tenancy Act with certain modifications. The Government of India referred back the Bill as passed for further consideration, especially the provisions relating to the resumption and registration of tenures, which were opposed by the majority of the persons concerned; and it was finally decided to postpone the introduction of the measure and also to postpone the question of the extension of the Bengal Tenancy Act, as that Act was then under amendment. The Lieutenant-Governor, (Sir. C. Stevens), however, considered that it was inadvisable to delay indefinitely the enactment of the provisions relating to the commutation of prædial services and conditions.

97. Act IV of 1897—Revised Tenancy Bill.—A modified Bill, the Commutation Act, was accordingly passed and became Act IV of 1897 of the Bengal Council. The questions of the extension of the Bengal Tenancy Act and of the resumption and registration of tenures were referred to the Board of Revenue, and the Commissioner finally proposed a bill to amend the several enactments relating to the law of landlord and tenant in Chota Nagpur. The provisions of the revised Bill were considered in 1899.

Immediately afterwards a ferment occurred among the Mundas, known as the Birsa rebellion. The Lieutenant-Governor, Sir John Woodburn, visited Ranchi in August 1899, and came to the conclusion that it was then inadvisable for two reasons to proceed with a consolidating Bill like the one proposed. It was in the first place considered inadvisable to introduce a highly contentious measure of that magnitude during a period of acute agrarian unrest, when the discussions might lead to further excitement among an already excited and credulous people, and it was secondly felt that, until a survey and record-of-rights had been prepared of a considerable portion of the country, it was impossible to say what provisions of law were exactly suitable to the peculiar agrarian conditions prevailing in Chota Nagpur. There was no further legislation till 1903, when the settlement operations were in progress in Ranchi district, and considerable investigations had been made into the agrarian conditions of the Munda country.

98. *Results of the Commutation Act of 1897.*—There were already provisions in Act I of 1879 (sections 25 and 26) under which the Courts had power to commute prædial conditions and services (*rakumats*, *abwabs* and *begari*, to cash payments, on the applications of one of the parties. The Commutation Act prescribed a more elaborate procedure, and power was taken in it by the Local Government to order a compulsory commutation of such conditions and services when it was considered expedient so to do; and great expectations appear to have been based on this latter provision as a possible solution of extreme cases. These expectations were, however, not fulfilled. Before making a commutation of such services and dues, a survey and a record-of-rights are necessary preliminaries, and, as these operations involved considerable outlay, the provision remained a dead letter. No commutation was ever ordered by Government until the inception of the settlement operations.

Numbers of applications for commutation were received from landlords and raiyats, but they amounted to a very small percentage of the whole. It has sometimes been remarked that it is strange that the raiyats did not apply for commutation, especially as they complained bitterly of the load of prædial services. The reasons are, however, clear. Those raiyats, who were on good terms with their landlords, had no objection whatsoever to working off a portion of their rent liabilities in the shape of labour. The system suited both parties, provided it was not abused. Raiyats, who were on very bad terms with their landlords, generally became nominal Christians, and in course of time refused to render any service whatsoever. Their organization secured them from oppression. They had no need to apply, as they rendered little or no service. Their landlords were generally advocates of the theory that their right to service was "limited only by their requirements", and as they could not prove that their demands were in accordance with custom, which was the criterion for the decision of the question of liability, it was evidently useless for them to apply. Lastly there was the question of cost. From personal investigations made by me, I have always found that the costs of any proceedings, in which the aborigines are applicants, are phenomenal; and this fact acted as a serious deterrent. The applications, which were disposed of by the local authorities, sometimes also ended in miscarriages of justice. The money payments allowed in lieu of services were sometimes greatly in excess of customary rates, and also in excess of the scale laid down by Mr. Grimley, which was in accordance with the custom of the district and was otherwise eminently fair and reasonable. To sum up, the operations carried out under the Commutation Act by the local authorities were a failure, and they exercised no appreciable influence as a solution of agrarian trouble. The result proved conclusively that compulsory commutation was essential to the peace of the district, and that the Courts sitting at Ranchi, in the state of strife which prevailed, were quite unable to determine accurately local customs and usages, or to appreciate the exact local values of the conditions and services which were being commuted. The system of personal service was a picturesque relic of the feudal era. It was subject to great abuses; it was gravely abused and, therefore, had to disappear. All such services have now been commuted by the Settlement department throughout the district, and with them the conditions *abwabs* and *rakumats*), which were a secondary cause of dispute, and both questions have been finally set at rest.

99. *Formation of the Palamau subdivision into a district in 1892.*—In the year 1860, Palamau was formed into a subdivision of Lohardaga district with headquarters at Leslieganj. The headquarters of the subdivision was removed to Daltonganj in 1863. The approximate area of the subdivision was 4,241 square miles. For some time prior to 1890, the authorities at Ranchi began to feel that the administration of so large an area, with a population of nearly half a million, could not be carried on satisfactorily from the district headquarters. Ranchi is 100 miles distant from Daltonganj, and 60 miles distant from the nearest and 150 miles distant from the remotest parts of the area, which constituted the subdivision. It was also felt that the large Government estates, which then yielded a revenue of Rs. 51,269, required the immediate supervision of a district officer. Mismanagement, confusion in the tauzi accounts, irregularities in the submissions of returns and reports, and malpractices committed by the clerks convinced the authorities of the impossibility of exercising any efficient control from the distant station of Ranchi. The necessary notification sanctioning the formation of a new district, with head quarters at Daltonganj, with effect from 1st January, 1892, was accordingly issued in November 1891. Pargana Tori, which formed a part of the Sadar subdivision, with an area of 664 square miles, was included in the new district.

100. *Change of the name of the district.*—Up to the end of 1898, the district of Ranchi was known as Lohardaga. There was considerable confusion in correspondence about this time, owing to the fact that letters addressed to Lohardaga district were usually sent to Lohardaga town instead of to Ranchi, the headquarters of the district; and, to obviate this in future, by Notification No. 139J., dated 9th January, 1899, the name of the district was formally changed to Ranchi.

101. *The Birsa revolt.*—As has been explained above, the operations under the Chota Nagpur Tenures Act extended only to a very small portion of the Munda country, though the same causes, which were operating in the rest of the district to deprive the Bhuinhars of their lands, were also in operation in that area. The discontent and agitation were not so pronounced at that time in this part of the district as in the Uraon country. In 1886, however, a petition was presented to the Government of India on behalf of the Mundas, in which the memorialists advanced the most extravagant claims, based on the theory that the Mundas were the aborigines of the country, that they were not subject to revenue laws, and their title was not invalidated by law or prescription. The memorial was, of course, rejected. From evidence collected at the time, it appeared that the agitation was being artificially fostered by self-interested persons in Calcutta. The leaders were certain Munda Sardars, who had abandoned Christianity. These people diligently spread the report that they had obtained a "decree" for the restoration of the Munda "raj," and proceeded to levy subscriptions throughout the country, under the pretence of paying the expenses of its execution. It is possible that the idea of the decree originated with the Calcutta wire-pullers, and it may be that some of the Sardars were themselves deceived into believing that it really existed. The Munda people themselves, however, firmly believed in its existence, and no assurances of the local officers to the contrary had the slightest effect in shaking that belief. Dr. Nottrott and the Reverend Mr. Onasch, the heads of the German mission, were openly accused of stealing the "decrees", and matters went so far that the former prosecuted his slanderers for defamation, and secured a conviction.

The Sardars continued to collect subscriptions, and after some time proceeded to threats and violence to effect these ends. Persons, who refused to join in the movement, were waylaid and assaulted, their crops looted, and they themselves were subjected to various kinds of oppression. Between 1893 and 1895, various Sardars were prosecuted on charges of extortion and assault. The operations of the Sardars extended throughout the northern Pirs of the Porahat estate in Singhbhum, the whole of the Munda country, and the adjoining parganas of the present Sadar and Gumla subdivisions inhabited mainly by Uraons. The total collections made within a period of ten years are estimated at one lakh of rupees; the greater portion appears to have paid away to certain "Barrister Sahebs" in Calcutta, and the rest was misappropriated by the leaders. The ferment in the Munda

country and adjoining parganas was entirely distinct from the agrarian agitation in the Uraon country, which again began to take a serious turn in the years 1887—1890, though the causes were analogous. The claims of the Mundas were the more extravagant, as they demanded a reversion to the state of affairs which prevailed, when they were the sole masters of the country. Though the Uraons were affected by these ideas and sympathised with them, their special grievances were the heavy exactions of prædial dues and services.

The ferment in the Munda country gathered strength, when in the year 1895 a leader appeared in the person of one Birsa, a Munda of village Chalkad in Tamar thana. Birsa, who was at one time a Christian and had been educated at the German Lutheran Mission School at Chaibassa, abandoned Christianity and suddenly proclaimed himself an incarnation of the deity, who was predestined to restore the Munda "raj" and to be the apostle of a new dispensation. The effect of the appearance of this self-proclaimed saviour is thus described by Father Hoffman, S.J., who was at the time the missionary in charge of the Roman Catholic mission station at Sarwada, a few miles distant from Chalkad:—"I distinctly remember how the Uraon sardars were urging the common people to go on pilgrimage to "Birsa Bhagwan." At first I took no notice of what I considered for some weeks as mere acts of semi-savage foolishness. However, the large crowds I soon saw arriving from all parts on their way to Chalkad, and the activity of the sardars aroused my suspicion. Rumours of miraculous cures and the resuscitation of dead men were diligently spread. I have myself met people coming from enormous distances carrying sick and dying people to Chalkad, and I have met them carrying dead bodies back to their villages. It was impossible to reason with the crowds. Birsa was the "Bhagwan" of Chota Nagpur, and not only of the Mundas. Incredible as it may seem, it is a fact that in a few months the bulk of both the Uraon and Munda population up to Barwai and Chechari in Palamau were convinced Birsaïtes. There were but *very few* Christians, who did not openly side with the new redeemer. Suddenly it was given out by the prophet and his disciples that a rain of fire would destroy all except those who were living close round Birsa. This transformed Chalkad and the neighbouring hills into a large camp. The available rice and other food-stuffs were carried rapidly to Chalkad and temporary huts were erected round the place. Crowds of Mundas, especially of the known sardari villages, were constantly going about armed.

I got certain news, too, that the religious colouring of Chalkad was fading more and more, and that the real political aims were coming out clearer, as Chalkad was getting more and more crowded with armed men, permanently settled there with provisions for many a day.

Birsa himself very soon began to advise his followers to defy the authorities, informing them that the "raj" of the Maharani was over and his had commenced. He prophesied that, if Government tried to oppose him, their guns would be turned to wood, and the bullets to water; and lastly he issued an injunction that the raiyats were to pay no rents in future, but were to hold their lands rent-free."

His proceedings naturally alarmed the authorities, and the District Superintendent of Police, Mr. Meares, was sent out with a picked force of police to arrest him. Mr. Meares reached Chalkad on the night of the 24th August, 1895, and succeeded in penetrating to the place where Birsa was sleeping, without the knowledge of the multitude, who surrounded him. The police overpowered the guards, pinioned and gagged them, and Birsa was well on the way to Ranchi under arrest, before the crowds of his followers even knew that he had been arrested. He and fifteen of his principal followers, who were arrested subsequently, were tried at Ranchi, and convicted under section 505 of the Indian Penal Code and sentenced to two years' imprisonment. During Birsa's imprisonment, the excitement in the Munda country subsided temporarily. In January 1898, however, some months after his release, the Hindu temple at Chutia near Ranchi was desecrated by a band of Mundas, some of whom were arrested. They alleged as their excuse that they had been commanded by Birsa to do what they had done, with the object of showing the country that the temple was the ancestral temple of their race. A warrant was issued for the arrest of Birsa; but he absconded and vanished for a period

of two years. On the 24th December, 1899, he reappeared, and his reappearance was signalized by murderous attacks and incendiarism committed by his followers in the southern part of Ranchi district and in the north of Singhbhum. Khunti thana was raided, and a constable killed, the others having escaped. A large, armed mob of Mundas had by this time assembled, and it was necessary to call out the troops from Doranda. The latter came up with the insurgents at Sailrakub Hill. They refused to surrender, and the troops were compelled to use their rifles and storm the hill. A number of the insurgents were killed or wounded, and the rest quickly dispersed. Several of the leaders were subsequently arrested, tried in Ranchi, and sentenced to imprisonment on various charges. Birsa himself was arrested by the agents of the Deputy Commissioner of Singhbhum (Mr. Thomson) on the 3rd February. He died on the 3rd June, 1900 in Ranchi Jail of cholera.

The objects of the originators of the movement, that came to be known locally as the *Sardari larai*, was to get rid of their landlords, and to assert the right of the aborigines to hold direct under Government. Birsa went much further than this. He assembled armed forces, not merely with the object of extirpating the landlords, but also of getting rid of the British. He proposed to restore the Munda kingdom, and to be himself the head of the new Government. His principles were an extraordinary medley of religious ideas and local politics. For a time, his name possessed extraordinary influence among the aborigines; and, there is little doubt that, if the British government had not been in existence to block the way at the time, he would have succeeded in founding a religious sect, which would, in a very short time, have embraced the whole aboriginal population of Chota Nagpur.

Mr. Forbes, the Commissioner of Chota Nagpur at the time, sums up his account of these events as follows:—

“I have endeavoured to give some connected account of the Kol troubles—troubles of the Kols, and troubles to Government—in order to show as clearly as I can what the real cause of these troubles had been, and what remedy is needed. The story is an old one, dating from about a century back; but, it is to all intents and purposes the same now as it was in the beginning, and so it will, I fear, remain until *first* a complete survey and record-of-rights have been made throughout the Munda country, and secondly the *beth begari* system is abolished.”

The survey and settlement operations commenced in the Munda country in 1902.

102. Foundation of Gumla subdivision, 1902.—Another step in the direction of bringing the administration of justice nearer to the homes of the people was the foundation of Gumla subdivision in November, 1902. Mr. Streatfield, who was Deputy Commissioner of Ranchi in 1897, reported that the distances of parts of the areas known as Barwai and Biru from Ranchi were so great that the people preferred to submit to any compromise rather than undertake the trouble and expense involved in making such a lengthy journey. The result was, he said, that the zamindars and police were omnipotent in these tracts, and that deeds of lawlessness were committed, which were a disgrace to the administration. As I was the first officer to hold charge of the Gumla subdivision, I can bear witness to the fact that Mr. Streatfield did not overstate the state of disorder which prevailed. There were parts of the area, notably the more remote parts of Kurdeg, Kochedega and Kalebira thanas, where the system of British administration could hardly be said to be in force. Murder cases and other very serious offences were usually brought before the Courts; but offences of lesser magnitude went unpunished. Even murders were frequently concealed; and I knew of one case, at least, in which a zamindar was reported to have committed as many as ten, and to have escaped conviction. The control over the police was so ineffective that they were the real rulers of the country, and, before any reforms could be effected, it was found necessary to prosecute or dismiss numbers of them. The chaukidari force was equally corrupt. During the first year after the foundation of the subdivision, the convictions of the chaukidars, who were the supposed guardians of the peace, for serious offences, such as dacoity, robbery, theft, and trespass were numerous, the percentage being nearly treble that of any other class of the community. It was, therefore, necessary to discharge or

dismiss large numbers of the worst of them, who usually belonged to the Ghasi and Mahali castes, who for some reason or other appear to have been appointed in preference to members of other castes, apparently at the instance of the local Police Sub-Inspectors. The relations of landlords and tenants were still based on the feudal system, but very few of the landlords discharged the duties entailed by it, while most of them oppressed their raiyats, save in those tracts in which Christianity was predominant. There was very little respect for the authority of Courts and Magistrates. One of the first processes issued by me was against a zamindar whom Colonel Dalton would have styled a feudal chief, regarding a dispute about some land, which he was proceeding to annex forcibly according to the custom of the country. He refused to accept the process and returned it contemptuously to the peon. The active or effective interference of a Magistrate in such matters in these parts was in fact something of a novelty, and several zamindars had to be fined or imprisoned, before any respect for the law could be engendered. All that has now changed, and Gumla subdivision is one of the most peaceable and law-abiding parts of the province.

103. Foundation of the Khunti subdivision.—For similar reasons, and because the results of the investigations made by the Settlement Officer showed clearly the urgent necessity of a closer local administration, Khunti subdivision was established with effect from the 1st December, 1905.

104. The Tenancy Amendment Act of 1903.—As has been explained above, the proposed Bill to consolidate the law of landlords and tenants was postponed in 1899, until the survey and settlement operations had thrown some light on agrarian conditions. By the end of the year 1903, the Settlement Officers had collected a considerable amount of data, and the local investigations made in the Munda country were held to justify the necessity of emergent legislation. One of the main objects of the amending Act was to give finality to the record-of-rights regarding the incidents of Mundari *khunkattidari* tenancies. The nature and incidents of these tenancies had been generally misunderstood by the Civil and Revenue Courts of the district; and, following the precedent of the Chota Nagpur Tenures Act, it was now considered expedient to make the record-of-rights final and conclusive. The results of the investigation made by the Settlement Officers, regarding the abuses to which the unrestricted sale and transfer of raiyati and other tenancies had led, were held to justify the imposition of restrictions on rights of transfer by raiyats and Mundari *khunkattidars*. The provisions enacted in 1903 are the same as those which are contained in sections 46 to 48 and section 240 of the present Tenancy Act, with certain modifications. At the same time provision was made for the summary sale of holdings in executions of decrees for arrears of rent; and a special procedure was prescribed for the recovery of arrears of rent from Mundari *khunkattidars*. The vexed question of the registration of transfers of, and successions to, tenures was settled; and all tenures were made saleable for arrears of rent accruing on them.

105. The Chota Nagpur Tenancy Act, Act VI of 1908.—The Act as amended in 1903 remained in force till 1908. By that time, the settlement operations had extended over the whole of Ranchi and a large area in Singhbhum; and sufficient data had been collected to enable the Legislature to pass a comprehensive measure consolidating the law of landlord and tenant in Chota Nagpur.

The Act came into force on the 11th November, 1908. Its objects were to supersede and consolidate the Acts in force in the division, to improve and amplify the procedure, and to improve and complete the substantive law by embodying in it certain provisions of the Bengal Tenancy Act and some additional provisions which affirm local customary rights and usages. Accordingly the provisions of the Commutation Act, Act IV of 1897, which is really an integral part of the local rent law, were incorporated in the Act with certain necessary modifications. The provisions of the Limitation Act and of certain sections of the Civil Procedure Code were made applicable to all proceedings under the Act, in so far as they are not inconsistent with any of its provisions, and, amongst other matters, the law relating to the "settled raiyat," the procedure for making surveys and records-of-rights with certain important alterations and additions, and several other provisions of the Bengal Tenancy

Act relating to law and procedure were incorporated. The law relating to *korkar* and *khuntkatti* rights was extended and amplified, and provision made for the preparation of a final and conclusive record of the rights of *khuntkattidars* (other than *Mundari khuntkattidars*) and village headmen. Landlords' privileged lands were defined, and provision was also made for a final and conclusive records of these rights.

It is noteworthy that during the discussions which preceded the Act, the proposal to extend the Bengal Tenancy Act, which at one time received considerable support from officials, zamindars, lawyers, and missionaries, was definitely dropped. In view of the necessity of the exceptional legislation, which was undertaken in 1903, it was evidently impracticable to propose the extension of the Bengal Act. Instead, a new Act was framed to include all those provisions affirming local customary rights and usages, which the investigations of the Settlement Officers had shown to be necessary, and several provisions of law and procedure, borrowed from the Bengal Tenancy Act, which were in no way inconsistent with local usages and customs and which the experience of the Civil Courts had shown to be essential for the proper administration of the rent law in Bengal.

106. Results of the Act.—The Chota Nagpur Tenancy Act has been in force only two years, and it is yet too early to speak with certainty of its results. As far as can be ascertained, however, despite some minor defects, its working has been eminently successful. The provisions of section 94, which make the entry in the record-of-rights of the amount of rent payable in respect of a holding conclusive as against the landlord—in practice it is conclusive also against the raiyat—have lightened greatly the burden of the Revenue Courts in the district. The disputes as to rates of rent and prædial dues were an unending source of strife and litigation. There was no uniformity in the decisions in numerous cases. One Court, for instance, decreed rent at Rs. 5 per unit of area, and disallowed all prædial dues; another Court, five years later, decreed rent at Rs. 6 and allowed numerous *rakumats* and *abwabs* against another set of tenants living in the same village. The latter were naturally dissatisfied. I have known several cases in which the landlords and raiyats failed to mention in Court the existence of decrees which definitely settled the incidence of rent charges in their villages. The landlord hoped to get a decree for higher rates, and the raiyats to get their legal rents reduced. Thus litigation was regarded as a gamble. The results of these diverse and contrary decisions were to initiate a period of strife and litigation, which was inimical to the best interests of both parties. This kind of litigation has now definitely ceased throughout the district. In practice the only disputed issue, which can now arise in ordinary rent suits, is whether the raiyat has paid his dues or not, and this is an issue, which it is usually easy to decide. The work of the Revenue Courts has, therefore, been reduced enormously, and the parties are saved from the harassment and cost entailed by prolonged litigation.

The policy of making the rent entries in the settlement records final and conclusive as against the landlord, and in practice also against the raiyat, is not based merely on expediency. As a matter of experience, it is well known that it is frequently impossible for Courts sitting at head-quarters, guided by the ordinary rules of procedure and of evidence, to come to correct conclusions as to the rates of rent and prædial conditions legally payable or renderable, and it would be easy to demonstrate by numerous examples that this procedure has nearly always been a failure in difficult, contested cases. A Settlement Officer has enormous advantages in disposing of these disputes. He decides the issues locally after enquiry on the spot; he has got the records of the village, which show the area and class of land held by each tenant, before him; and he knows the rates which have been recorded in neighbouring villages or parganas. He also knows the pargana custom as to the incidence of *rakumats* and *begari*, and, most important of all, there are rarely any touts to interfere with, or tutor, the witnesses. The raiyats and landlords, therefore, frequently tell the truth. In consequence—and this is a matter of common experience—during the settlement proceedings, it was seldom found difficult to determine on the spot the correct rates of rent and prædial conditions. The recording of the rents is in some respects the most important of all

settlement operations; it will be, therefore, interesting to watch the effect of this part of the record in setting at rest agrarian disputes in Chota Nagpur. The results in Ranchi district have been so far eminently successful. In operations carried out under the Bengal Tenancy Act, the analogous entries are only presumptive evidence of correctness, and they are, as a matter of fact, frequently regarded merely as a basis for subsequent litigation in the Civil Courts, in which the issues are finally settled. Other aspects of the new agrarian law are discussed in succeeding chapters.

107. Local Self-Government.—Before 1900, when the District Board was established, the roads of the district were in charge of a Road Committee, who were nominated and appointed by the Local Government. The schools of the district were directly under the Deputy Commissioner.

The District Board of Ranchi was established in April 1900 on the recommendation of the Commissioner, Mr. Forbes. The Board as originally constituted consisted of twelve members; but this number was subsequently increased to eighteen, including the Chairman. Of this number, nine are non-officials, all of whom are appointed by the Local Government, and nine are *ex-officio* members. The Deputy Commissioner is invariably the Chairman.

The average annual income of the Board, since its inception in 1900, amounted to Rs. 1,30,557, of which Rs. 49,450 were derived from road cess, and the balance from fixed annual grants assigned by the Local Government, to maintain equilibrium between receipts and expenditure. The average annual expenditure was Rs. 1,21,770, of which an average sum of Rs. 64,301 was spent on civil works, Rs. 32,949 on education, and Rs. 3,965 on medical relief.

The incidence of taxation is 8 pies per head of population as compared with 10 pies in Hazaribagh, 11 pies in Manbhum, and 11 pies in Palamau.

The income of the District Board is quite insufficient for the proper upkeep and repair of roads, the opening up of necessary new roads, and the maintenance of schools. The roads of the district are especially inadequate, in view of the considerable transport of grain, which goes on within the district. In the more remote parts like Chainpur and Bishunpur, there are no main roads, and the ordinary means of transport is by pack-bullocks or by coolies. The Local Government have made grants amounting to Rs. 2,02,869 during the last nine years for the improvement of local communications, and some progress has been made in opening up the country. The District Board are also responsible for the upkeep of 4 inspection bungalows, 10 inspection huts, 1 ferry (over the Koel river on the Gumla road), and 63 pounds. In 1900, there were 25 pounds, with an annual demand of Rs. 3,079, all of which were managed by the police. There are now 63 pounds, and the annual revenue has increased to Rs. 5,871, while the expenditure on management has decreased from Rs. 581 to Rs. 97 as a result of the adoption of the farming system.

The amount expended on education amounted to Rs. 33,115 in 1908-09. The Board maintain 7 middle, 30 upper primary, and 643 lower primary schools. There is also an industrial school at Ranchi.

During the same year, a sum of Rs. 7,357 was spent on medical assistance, of which Rs. 4,783 were spent on the maintenance of the dispensaries at Silli, Bundu, Khunti, Gumla, and Chainpur. Subsidies of Rs. 1,500 and Rs. 90 were made to the Ranchi and Lohardaga dispensaries respectively, and a grant in-aid amounting to Rs. 700 was paid to the Dublin Mission for the maintenance of their dispensaries at Murhu, and Itki.

The Board also maintain a veterinary dispensary at Ranchi, the cost of which during the year 1908-09 amounted to Rs. 1,904, as against an income of Rs. 1,477.

108. Municipalities.—There are only two municipalities in the district, viz., Ranchi and Lohardaga. Ranchi Municipality was established in 1865. The present annual income is Rs. 46,317, and its approximate area is $6\frac{1}{2}$ square miles. Lohardaga Municipality was established in 1888. Its present annual income is Rs. 4,746, and its approximate area is $2\frac{1}{2}$ square miles.

CHAPTER IV.

THE DISTRICT SETTLEMENT OPERATIONS.

PROCEDURE AND PROGRESS.

109. Necessity of a record-of-rights.—As has been shown in the previous chapter, it had been recognized for a long time by various Lieutenant-Governors and by the local authorities that a survey and a record-of-rights were essential to the peaceful development of the district. The discussions regarding the Bill to consolidate the Law of Landlord and Tenant in 1899 showed clearly that there was considerable divergence of opinion regarding local customary agrarian rights and customs, and a record of these rights and customs was evidently necessary to supply the data for agrarian legislation. The Birsa revolt of 1900 was a sharp reminder that the proposed operations had been already too long delayed. Soon after the Birsaites had been dispersed, the Deputy Commissioner (Mr. Streatfield) and the Judicial Commissioner (Mr. Taylor) in their joint report submitted the opinion that—

“Until a survey and a record-of-rights are undertaken at least in the Munda country, disaffection and discontent will continue.”

The Commissioner, Mr. Forbes, in discussing the causes of agrarian discontent during half a century, summed up his account of the Birsa rising as follows:—

“The story is an old one, dating from about a century back, but it is to all intents and purposes the same now as it was in the beginning, and so it will, I fear, remain until a complete survey and record-of-rights have been made throughout the Mundari country, and secondly the *beth-begari* system is abolished.”

110. Sanction to the inception of the operations.—The Government of Bengal in their letter urged the necessity of undertaking survey and settlement operations immediately in the Munda country and eventually in the rest of the district, and the Government of India, in their letter No. 319—264-4, dated the 2nd February, 1902, sanctioned their inception in the 1,846 square miles of the district, which constitute the Munda country; it was understood that the orders conveyed in no way committed the Government of India to the project for the survey and settlement of the remainder of the district. The Government of India undertook to bear one-fourth of the cost, the remaining three-fourths being recoverable from landlords and tenants, and the Provincial Revenues being liable to bear the charge involved in writing off as irrecoverable any portion of the recoverable amount. In February 1902, the Singhbhum traverse detachment was ordered to proceed to Ranchi at once and begin the traverse work. Mr. Lister was appointed Settlement Officer, and joined the post on the 8th March, 1902.

111. Chain of correspondence and control.—It was arranged that the chain of correspondence should be as follows:—

Settlement Officer.
Deputy Commissioner.

Government.

Director of Land Records.
Board of Revenue.

The Commissioner was to exercise general control over the operations, and it was subsequently ordered that he should be consulted on all questions of law and principle arising in connection with the operations.

112. Definition of the Munda country.—There was considerable divergence of opinion as to the area which constituted the Munda country. Mr. Streatfield, the Deputy Commissioner in 1900, defined the area as consisting of the whole of Tamar, Khunti and Bano thanas, one-third of Biru and Karra, one-fourth of Kolebira, and a small portion of Ranchi, with a total area of 1,846 square miles. This figure was accepted by the Government of India. Mr. Maude, Deputy Commissioner, however, subsequently proposed that an area of 2,225 square miles should be dealt with, and the Commissioner, Mr. Slacko, proposed that the operations should be extended to 3,490 square miles. The distribution

of the vast majority of the Munda population according to the census figures of 1901 is shown below :—

Name of thana or outpost.	Total population.	Number of Mundas.	Percentage of Mundas.
Khunti ...	113,660	82,618	72
Tamar ...	111,747	58,459	52
Bano ...	29,550	15,578	52
Basia ...	49,582	19,361	39
Kolebira ..	37,788	13,790	36
Karra ...	90,346	25,795	28
Silli ...	75,543	16,564	22
Ranchi ...	177,583	31,996	18

With the exception of thana Kochedega, where the percentage of Mundas is 11 per cent. of the whole population, the total Munda population in the other thanas and outposts is insignificant. The Mundas, therefore, preponderate in three thanas only. It was found impossible to define the portions of the remaining thanas which might be considered part of the Munda country, as the census figures showed that the Mundas were scattered over a larger area than Mr. Streatfield supposed. Owing to the difficulty of defining a compact block as the Munda country, the area, which was to be surveyed and settled under the original orders of the Government of India, was never definitely fixed.

113. *Commencement of the operations.*—The operations were commenced in thanas Khunti and Tamar, and in the cold season of 1904, survey was going on in Karra, Basia, Bano, and Kolebira. It was, therefore, necessary to decide at an early date whether the operations should be extended to the whole district or discontinued, after the completion of these areas.

114. *Reasons for the extension of the operations to the whole district.*—The local officers and the Board of Revenue urged strongly the necessity of extending the operations to the areas mainly occupied by the non-Mundari races. The reasons advanced were the necessity of commuting by a compulsory process all praedial conditions and services, an operation to which the survey and records-of-rights are a necessary preliminary, the desirability of defining villages, the absence of standards of measurement, and the uncertainty of the incidence of rents.

It was said, "areas of holdings are unknown, no rents are fixed; there is no security of tenure, and the relations between the landlords and tenants are as unsatisfactory as was the case in North Bihar before the preparation of the record-of-rights recently concluded." Mr. Slacke, the Commissioner, gave it as his opinion that the Civil and Revenue Courts were, in the existing state of affairs, unable to administer justice effectively, and he reported that their decisions were regarded with but scant respect by the people. Lastly, it had been recognized for several years that, in order to solve several of the agrarian problems, legislation would be necessary, and it was obviously undesirable to undertake the legislation until a record of agrarian rights throughout the district had been completed. It was well known that the Mundas regarded the operations in progress with marked satisfaction, and, when the Lieutenant-Governor visited Ranchi in February, 1904, he received an address from various classes of the population urging the extension of the operations. He supported the proposals of the Board and the local officers, and the Government of India, in their letter No. 1046—239-2, dated the 27th July, 1904, sanctioned the extension of the sphere of the operations to the whole district. The Government of India appear to have regarded the work as an administrative necessity, and they authorized the Lieutenant-Governor to grant remissions up to a limit of 10 per cent. of the total sum ordinarily recoverable from landlords and tenants, and agreed at the same time that any loss sustained under this head should be borne by Imperial Revenues. The total cost of the operations was estimated at Rs. 20,65,737. After nearly 25

years of sporadic discussion and correspondence, during which the local officers had frequently emphasised the inefficiency of the administration and the need of a survey and a record-of-rights, Government conferred this great boon on the landlords and tenants of the district. It is now obvious to every officer, who has worked in the Ranchi settlement operations, that the survey and record were not not only necessary as a solution of agrarian troubles, but that they are essential as a basis for the efficient administration of the district. The financial difficulties, which were the main cause of the postponement of the settlement—it was considered doubtful whether the landlords and tenants would be able to pay the three-fourths share of the cost—were greatly exaggerated, as the ease, with which full collections have been made, has proved; and it is now a matter of surprise, considering the events of the last 50 years, why the operations were not commenced sooner, and the agrarian troubles—troubles to the people and to Government—ended.

115. *Alteration in the chain of correspondence and control in the Chota Nagpur Settlement.*—As the sphere of the operations was extended to the whole district, and as operations were also simultaneously going on in Singhbhum and in Manbhum districts, the system of sending all correspondence through Deputy Commissioners was found cumbrous and impracticable. The chain of correspondence was, therefore, altered, and by Government order No. 2401 T.—R., dated the 31st October, 1908, it was laid down that in future the chain of correspondence should be as follows in all Chota Nagpur settlements:—

Settlement Officer.
Director of Land Records.

Board of Revenue.
Government.

It was further ordered that the Deputy Commissioner of each district and the Commissioner of the Division should be consulted on all questions of law and principle arising in connection with the operations, and that copies of all circular orders relating to such questions should be sent to them.

116. *Notifications under the Survey Act.*—On the 3rd March, 1902, a notification under section 3, Act V (B.C.) of 1875 was issued, ordering the survey of all lands included in thanas Tamar, Khunti, and Bano. Other thanas were subsequently notified for survey, *vide* Appendix IX.

117. *Notifications under the Tenancy Act.*—As there were then no provisions in the local Tenancy Act for the preparation of a record-of-rights, the provisions of Chapter X of the Bengal Tenancy Act, with certain omissions and modifications, were extended to the Chota Nagpur division, except Manbhum, by Government Notification No. 721, dated the 9th February, 1903. The record-of-rights was prepared according to the procedure laid down in Chapter X as extended to Chota Nagpur, until the present Chota Nagpur Tenancy Act was enacted. From that date, the record-of-rights was prepared according to the procedure laid down in Chapter XII of that Act. For the notifications issued by the Local Government, *vide* Appendix IX.

118. *Particulars to be recorded.*—The particulars, which the Settlement Officers were required to ascertain and record under the provisions of section 101 (1) of the Bengal Tenancy Act, were:—

- (a) the name of each tenant or occupant ;
- (b) the class to which each tenant belongs, that is to say, whether he is a tenure-holder, raiyat holding at fixed rate, occupancy-raiyat, non-occupancy-raiyat, under-raiyat or other tenant ; and, if he is a tenure-holder, whether he is a permanent tenure-holder or not, and whether his rent is liable to enhancement during the continuance of his tenure ;
- (c) the situation and quantity and one or more of the boundaries of the land held by each tenant or occupier ;
- (d) the name of each tenant's landlord ;
- (e) the rent payable at the time the record-of-rights is being prepared ;
- (f) the mode in which the rent has been fixed, whether by contract, by order of a Court or otherwise ;
- (g) the special conditions and incidents, if any, of the tenancy ;
- (h) if the rent is a gradually increasing rent, the time at which, and the steps by which, it increases ;

- (i) the name of each landlord, with the character and extent of his interest, and the situation, quantity and one or more of the boundaries of the land cultivated by each landlord ;
- (j) if the land is claimed to be held rent-free, whether or not rent is actually paid, and if not paid, whether or not the occupant is entitled to hold the land without payment of rent, and if so entitled, under what authority ;
- (k) if the land is jungle, the right to timber, fruits, and other jungle produce and the right of the grazing.

119. Revised form of notification.—When the Chota Nagpur Tenancy Act [Act VI (B. C.) of 1908] became law (11th November, 1908), a revised form of notification was issued. The particulars required to be recorded under section 81 of that Act are :—

- (a) the name of each tenant or occupant ;
- (b) the class to which each tenant belongs, that is to say, whether he is a tenure-holder, Mundari *khuntkattidur*, settled raiyat, occupancy-raiyat, non-occupancy raiyat, raiyat having *khuntkatti* rights, under-raiyat (or other class of tenant), and, if he is a tenure-holder, whether he is a permanent tenure-holder or not, and whether his rent is liable to enhancement during the continuance of his tenure ;
- (c) the situation and quantity and one or more of the boundaries of the land held by each tenant or occupier ;
- (d) the name of each tenant's landlord ;
- (e) the rent payable at the time the record-of-rights is being prepared ;
- (f) the mode in which that rent has been fixed ; whether by contract, by order of a Court or otherwise ;
- (g) the special conditions and incidents, if any, of the tenancy ;
- (h) if the rent is a gradually increasing rent, the time at which, and the steps by which, it increases ;
- (i) the name of each proprietor, with the character and extent of his interest, and the situation, quantity and one or more of the boundaries of the lands cultivated by each landlord ;
- (j) any easement attaching to the land for which a record-of-rights is being prepared ;
- (k) if the land is claimed to be held rent-free, whether or not rent is actually paid, and, if not paid, whether or not the occupant is entitled to hold the land without payment of rent, and, if so entitled, under what authority ;
- (l) the right of any person, whether a landlord or tenant or not, to take forest produce from jungle land or waste land, or to graze cattle on any land, in any village in the area to which the record-of-rights applies ;
- (m) the right of any resident of the village to reclaim jungle land or waste land, or to convert land into *korkar*.

This is now the standard form of notification for all Chota Nagpur Settlements.

THE TRAVERSE SURVEY.

120. The cadastral survey of the district was preceded by a traverse survey, the objects of which were to fix, by means of the theodolite, stations on or near the boundaries of villages, and lines of stations at distances of 40 or 50 chains from the village boundaries. The lines of stations along or near the boundaries are known as traverse lines, and the lines of stations within the village are known as sub-traverses. The cadastral surveyors fill in the details of the survey on the basis of these fixed points, which are accurately plotted on the skeleton maps supplied by the professional department. The traverse operations were throughout under the direct control of the Director of Surveys, Bengal. The Settlement Officer was, however, appointed Superintendent of Survey under the Survey Act from the commencement of the operations, though he had no executive control over the traverse staff.

121. *Delegation of powers to traverse officers.*—Under the system at present in force in the Chota Nagpur settlements, the Settlement Officer is the Superintendent of Survey for the district. Traverse officers are gazetted as Assistant Superintendents of Survey under the Survey Act, and the Superintendent of Survey delegates to them the necessary powers of a Collector, to issue special notices under sections 7 and 9, and to impose fines under section 51(b) of the Survey Act.

The following table shows the progress made in the traverse work, year by year, with details as to the number of stations fixed :—

Season.	Area in square miles.	No. of theodolite stations.	No. of theodolite stations per square mile.	Thanas or outposts dealt with wholly or in part.
1901-02	480	9,793	23	Khunti except one village, and Tamar (portion).
1902-03	1,001	19,178	19	Tamar (portion), Sonahatu, Bundu, Torpa (portion), and one village of Khunti.
1903-04	861	20,077	23	Karra except six villages, Basia (portion), Bano, Kolsbira, and Torpa (portion).
1904-05	1,632	30,350	18	Kochedega, Kurdeg, Palkot, Basia (portion), Gumla and Raidih.
1905-06	873	14,471	17	Ghaghra, Bishunpur and Chainpur.
1906-07	1,128	17,516	16	Lohardaga, Kuru, Bero, Sesai, Lapung and six villages of Karra.
1907-08	^{6·7} 1,203	24,612	20	Ranchi municipality, Burmu, Mandar, Ranchi, Ormanjhi, Angara, Silli, and two villages of Sonahatu.
Total ...	7,139·7	135,997	19·04	

The area of the district by summation of fields is only 7,103·59 square miles. The difference of 35 square miles is mainly accounted for by the fact that there were important boundary disputes between Ranchi and Singhbhum, Ranchi and Jashpur State, and Ranchi and Hazaribagh. These areas were traversed as part of the Ranchi operations, though portions of them were subsequently included in Hazaribagh and Singhbhum districts, and Jashpur State.

122. *Difficulties of the traverse.*—The traverse was generally difficult. Owing to the hilly nature of the country, frequent recourse to the subtense bar was necessary instead of the chain. In the jungle area a large amount of jungle-clearing was necessary, and this delayed the progress of the work. The health of the staff was bad in portions of the district, notably in the first year's area, in which more than half the total number of the surveyors were invalided during the field season, and several died of malarial fever. As there was no previous revenue survey, save in the villages surveyed in Mr. Slacke's settlement, the villages were undefined, and the preliminary demarcation done by the villagers in several portions of the district was slipshod and inaccurate. The cost of the work varied considerably from year to year, owing to these factors. The rates per square mile, season by season, as given in the annual reports, were Rs. 60, Rs. 29 and Rs. 32 for the first three years.

123. *Average cost of traverse per square mile.*—The total expenditure by the traverse section on the district operations was Rs. 2,36,967, which gives an incidence of Rs. 33 per square mile.

124. *Defects of the traverse.*—The traverse work of the area, which was cadastrally surveyed in 1905-06, was found to be defective in several important particulars. The most serious defect was the lack of sub-traverse lines in several of the jungle and hill areas, and along or near isolated patches of cultivation in jungles. Theoretically, the traverse surveyors were bound to encircle the jungle and hill areas by a line of stations, and also to run lines near isolated patches of cultivation to enable the cadastral amin to fill in the

detailed survey on the basis of the stations thus accurately fixed. Owing to the absence of these stations, the cadastral survey was found to be very difficult in parts of Kochedega, Kurdeg, and Palkot. Chaining was frequently impossible, and it was necessary to use the sight vane under conditions which sometimes precluded absolute accuracy. A special report was submitted by the Settlement Officer on the character of the defects brought to light, and the Superintendent of Provincial Surveys (now the Director of Surveys), Colonel Crichton, examined the maps and came to the conclusion that the complaints made by the Settlement department, which was then in charge of the cadastral survey operations, were justified. He found that the traverse surveyors had run an unnecessary number of lines in open country, and neglected the orders regarding the separation of jungle from cultivation. He accordingly issued the following instructions for the future guidance of the department:—

- “ 1. All jungle blocks must have sub-traverses along the edge, preferably in the open, one chain to one and a half chains from the jungle, so as to avoid unnecessary line-clearing.
2. Hills must have sub-traverses at their bases. The existence of traverse stations following the village boundaries along the crest of a hill or a range of hills is not sufficient.
3. Inside jungle and hilly tracts, no traverse stations are required, as no detail survey will be undertaken in these tracts.
4. In open and cultivated lands, sub-traverses need not generally be nearer than 50 chains apart, but the existing rules as to traverse of congested village sites hold good.”

Orders were also issued providing for the running of sub-traverse lines through or near isolated patches of cultivation, and in plotting the 16-inch sheets, officers were enjoined to provide, as far as possible, stations on the margins.

125. *Defects remedied in subsequent years.*—These rules have since been generally observed, and the work done during the last two or three years, under the direct superintendence of Mr. A. W. Smart of the Survey of India, has been particularly good. From the table given above, showing the number of theodolite stations fixed, it will be seen that the number of theodolite stations to the square mile for the season 1905-06 was almost up to the average. The defects were due to the fact that the surveyors in the field located them in an arbitrary fashion, and without much reference to the needs of the cadastral survey party.

CADASTRAL SURVEY AND PRELIMINARY RECORD-WRITING.

126. The following table shows the progress made in cadastral survey and preliminary record-writing year by year :—

YEAR.	Survey area in square miles.	Khanapuri area in square miles.	Thanas or outposts dealt with wholly or in part.
1902-03 ...	616	437	Khunti (except one village), and portion of Tamar.
1903-04 ...	748	801	Remaining part of Tamar, Sonahatu (except two villages), Bundu, Torpa (portion), and one village of Khunti.
1904-05 ...	909	1,035	Torpa (remaining portion), Karra (except six villages), Basia, Bano, Kalebira, and one village of Kochedega.
1905-06 ...	1,618	1,618	Remaining portion of Basia, Gumla, Raidih, Palkot, Kurdeg, and Kochedega.
1906-07 ...	854	854	Ghaghra, Chainpur, Bishunpur, and two villages of Lohardaga.
1907-08 ...	1,140	1,140	Lohardaga, Sesai, Lapung, Bero, Kuru (except two villages), two villages of Ranchi, four of Mandar, and six of Karra.
1908-09 ..	1,219	1,219	Burmu, Ormanjhi, Ranchi, Angara, Silli, Mandar, one village of Khunti, two of Sonahatu, three of Kuru, and one of Bero.
Total ...	7,104	7,104	

The lists of villages supplied to the traverse party by the Deputy Commissioner were incomplete, and some villages were, therefore, not traversed at the same time as the rest of the thana or outpost to which they appertained. They were dealt with in subsequent years.

Up to the cold weather of 1905, the cadastral survey operations were carried on under the supervision of the professional department, the whole control being vested in the Director of Surveys, who was then known as Superintendent of Provincial Surveys. The Settlement department and the officers of the Survey of India jointly supervised the record-writing. This system of joint control was found to be unworkable, and the complete control of the cadastral survey and the record-writing was transferred to the Settlement department in October, 1905. The services of an officer of the Survey of India were, however, retained as a professional adviser in survey matters.

127. System of survey and organization.—After a couple of years' practical experience of survey work by the officers of the Settlement department, rules were drawn up prescribing a detailed system of survey and a system of check. These rules were subsequently embodied in the Bengal Survey Manual of 1903, and it is, therefore, unnecessary to describe the system and organization in detail here.

128. Check of cadastral survey.—The chief check of the detailed survey done by the amins consists in the running of lines (*partal*) across the field map by the supervising agency, Assistant Settlement Officers, Kanungos, Head Inspectors, and Inspectors, with a view to test whether all fields and important items have been accurately surveyed and plotted. There are three kinds of *partal*, viz., personal *partal*, independent *partal*, and block *partal*. In personal *partal*, the lines are run across the map during the progress of the survey, and discrepancies are corrected on the spot. In independent *partal*, the lines are run across the map after the amin has finished the survey. The Assistant Settlement Officer notes on a rough skeleton map (the *khakha*) the lines which he desires should be resurveyed, and gives them to the amin or Inspector keeping the original map himself. The Inspector or amin plots the details along the line up to a distance of a couple of chains on both sides, and brings the trace to the Assistant Settlement Officer, who compares it with the corresponding portion of the map. The latter then finally passes the map or rejects it. Block *partal* consists of the complete resurvey of a small area, after the original is handed in to the Assistant Settlement Officer. The trace of the resurveyed portion is compared with the corresponding portion of the map.

129. Incidence of check.—The minimum prescribed *partal* is 24 chains per 100 acres surveyed, viz., 12 chains of independent and 12 chains of personal *partal*. There is no prescribed minimum for block *partal*, as its uses are exceptional; in addition, the superior supervising agency (Assistant Settlement Officers and Kanungos) are expected to *partal* one line at least in every map sheet. For a detailed account of the system, Chapter VIII of the Survey Manual may be read.

A total area of 2,273 square miles of the district was surveyed by the Cadastral department of the Survey of India. The survey was tested by 7,608 linear miles of *partal*, which gives an incidence of 3.3 linear miles per square mile.

The table given below shows the incidence of check in the area surveyed under the supervision of the Settlement department :—

Survey area in square miles.	Personal <i>partal</i> in linear miles.	Personal <i>partal</i> per square mile.	Independent <i>partal</i> in linear miles.	Independent <i>partal</i> per square mile.	Total <i>partal</i> in linear miles.	Total <i>partal</i> per square mile.
4,831	8,089	1.7	4,118	9	12,207	2.5

The prescribed minimum linear *partial* is about 2 linear miles per square mile. The minimum was, therefore, considerably exceeded. The amount of block *partial* was insignificant, the total for the area dealt with by the Settlement department being only 979 acres. In addition, during the last two seasons, ten per cent. of the quadrilaterals, on which the detailed survey is based, were re-checked. The figures for check by the superior supervising agency (Assistant Settlement Officers, and Kanungos) are not available for the whole period ; but, during the last two seasons, the total *partial* by these agencies amounted to 437 and 491 linear miles respectively, or .4 and .3 linear miles per square mile. It should be noted that, as jungle and waste lands were not *partialled*, the incidence of check per square mile of cultivated land is about double the figures given above.

130. Quality of the check.—The great difficulty in securing an adequate check is the unreliability of a considerable percentage of the inferior supervising agency of Survey Inspectors. A large percentage of check is essential as a guarantee of the accuracy of the survey as a whole, and, as the Assistant Settlement Officer himself cannot run more than one line in every sheet and can thus test only a very small percentage, it becomes necessary to employ a large number of Inspectors. The Settlement department usually employs about four for every 100 square miles of survey.

During the season 1905-06, it was found that several Inspectors were in the habit of getting their amins to prepare field books of *partial* lines for them, which they used to recopy, and send in to head-quarters, as if the check had been done by themselves.

An attempt has been made in the Chota Nagpur surveys to minimize the chances of collusion between the Inspectors and the amins, by making the latter entirely independent of the former as regards their work and earnings. The Inspector is not allowed to distribute the survey sheets, nor has he anything to do with the preparation of the accounts. An inferior or lazy amin, whose work is poor, is, however, still interested in securing the good will of the Inspector, and the accuracy of the survey, in the last resort, depends on the energy and activity of the covenanted officer in charge of the operations and of the Assistant Settlement Officers in charge of circles. A high standard cannot be attained, unless the Assistant Settlement Officers themselves scrutinize the maps carefully, and *partial* systematically the most difficult pieces of survey. They should insist on the Inspectors doing likewise. The latter very quickly take their cue from their superiors.

Occasional *repartals* of Inspectors' lines are also essential, in order to see that the latter have not scamped their work. Quality should be aimed at rather than quantity.

Of the two kinds of linear *partial*, personal *partial* is much more important as a guarantee of accuracy. It is well-known that experienced amins, who have scamped details, keep traces of the inferior parts of their work. If the lines given by the Assistant Settlement Officer for independent *partial* cross these portions, the amin, who usually makes the plot himself, prepares his field book from his trace, and the check is futile. I have known several cases of this nature. The system of independent *partial* is open to such grave abuses that its general utility is open to question. It frequently gives an inexperienced officer a misleading idea of the character of the survey, and, though it helps to swell the *partial* outturn, its value as a real check must be greatly discounted. On the whole, I think, that the system should be abolished, and a heavier percentage of personal *partial* insisted on instead. An incidence of $1\frac{1}{2}$ linear miles of personal *partial* per square mile, if carefully done, is more than sufficient to ensure the absolute accuracy of the detailed survey.

131. Survey of municipalities.—The two municipal areas of Ranchi and Lohardaga were surveyed. A complete record was prepared of all agricultural tenancies within these areas. Of the non-agricultural area, a record of occupancy was prepared in Lohardaga municipality, but no record was prepared in the case of Ranchi. A map on the 32- or 64- inch scale was prepared of the congested portions of both towns, and the costs of the preparation of the maps in the non-agricultural portion were recovered from the

municipal authorities. The table given below shows the area surveyed on the 32- and 64- inch scales in each municipality :—

Name of Municipality.	Area surveyed on 32-inch scale in acres.	Area surveyed on 64-inch scale in acres.	Approximate area of municipality in square miles.
Ranchi ...	838	13	6.5
Lohardaga ...	429	...	2.

The rest was surveyed on the 16-inch scale. The cost recovered from the Ranchi municipality was Rs. 772, and the cost recovered from the Lohardaga municipality was Rs. 107. No charge was made in respect of traverse work.

132. *Contract rates—Cadastral and Khanapuri.*—Amins were paid during the last three seasons at the following contract rates for survey and record-writing :—

I.—*Survey.*—

- (i) For all fields, the areas of which exceed 5 acres, at Re. 1 per 100 acres.
- (ii) For all fields, the areas of which do not exceed 5 acres, at Rs. 4-12 per acre.

These rates do not include payment for inking up maps, which are now inked up by draughtsmen stationed at the head-quarters of circles.

II.—*Preliminary record-writing.*—

- (i) Rupees 2-10 per 100 plots.
- (ii) Rupee 1 per 100 plots recorded and entered merely in the *khasra tanazu* of boundary dispute records.

133. *The programme of cadastral survey and record-writing year by year.*—The cadastral survey of the Munda country was commenced by the Ranchi cadastral detachment under Mr. W. Skilling of the Survey of India. The area dealt with in the first year was one of considerable difficulty, especially the Tamar area, which consists of hilly and jungle country, in which the survey staff suffered much from malarial fever. The unhealthiness of the tract may be gauged from the fact that 78 amins had to be sent at different times to complete the survey and preliminary record-writing of a small area of 28 square miles. An additional cause of delay was the paucity of good amins. Most of the staff were local men, who were inexperienced and frequently unreliable. The Survey Officer was consequently unable to close his season before the beginning of the rains. Record-writing did not commence till the end of February. An area of 179 square miles of the latter had to be left over for the following season.

The progress during the second year was hardly less unsatisfactory; the preliminary record writing of an area of 126 square miles in pargana Belsia had to be postponed. The survey was not complete till the end of March, and the field season was again prolonged till the commencement of the rains. The third year's programme was completed with more expedition, and the field season was over by the end of April. There was still, however, a paucity of proficient amins, and the daily outturn per man was only 16 acres of survey or 23 plots of record-writing (khanapuri). From the following year (15th October, 1905), the control of the survey and the preliminary record-writing was transferred to the Settlement department. The programme of 1905-06 (1618 square miles) was completed by the beginning of April, the next year's programme by the beginning of March, and the last two years' programme by the 10th April each year. The comparative ease with which these large programmes, in addition to other areas in Singhbhum and Manbhum districts, were completed, is due mainly to the shifting of responsibility for the progress of the work from the Inspectors to Assistant Settlement Officers. The Survey of India department was heavily handicapped in the management of the work, owing to the lack of a sufficient staff of supervising officers. The Assistant Settlement Officers, it is true, inspected and supervised to some extent the preliminary record-writing, but under the dual system of control it was impossible to employ them as an effective controlling agency, and the natural result was that a great deal too much power devolved on the Inspectors, who from corrupt motives frequently delayed the progress of the work. The transfer of the operations to the Settlement department has

therefore, resulted in an enormous economy of labour, and considerably increased efficiency. The daily average outturn of amins has increased to about 30 acres of survey or 50 khanapuri numbers.

134. Accuracy of the survey.—The accuracy of the detailed survey ultimately depends on the superior controlling agency. As has been stated above, the Survey of India department was handicapped heavily in this respect, owing to the lack of a sufficient number of superior supervising officers. Under the present system, there are three or four gazetted officers employed in supervision to every one employed by the Survey of India, and there is, therefore, a greater guarantee of accuracy. I assume that no great expert knowledge is required for the conduct of cadastral survey operations. The work, as a matter of fact, is purely mechanical, and the accuracy of the survey depends entirely on the ability of the controlling officers to organize the staff, and to enforce a very simple but effective system of check. It is, of course, a disadvantage that Assistant Settlement Officers cannot be employed for more than a year or two in the conduct of the operations; but this defect has been remedied to a great extent since the year 1907 by the employment of Kanungos, on pay ranging from Rs. 80 to Rs. 100 a month, one of whom is attached to each circle in charge of an Assistant Settlement Officer. The Kanungos are employed continuously from year to year, and, as they become after a few years experts in survey and record-writing, their advice and assistance are invaluable to the inexperienced Assistant Settlement Officer in the early stages of each year's operations.

135. The professional adviser.—Since 1905, an officer of the Survey of India has been attached to the Chota Nagpur settlement as advisor in survey matters. This was, perhaps, necessary in the early stages; but there are now several gazetted officers, including covenanted officers, who possess the necessary practical experience of the work, and the continuance of the system is, therefore, unnecessary. As a matter of fact, in those years in which survey operations were carried on in two districts concurrently, the professional advisor's supervision was confined to one district, during the field operations. The operations in the second district were entirely controlled and supervised by other officers. Since all cadastral survey operations throughout the Province have now been transferred to the Settlement department, it will be impossible in a few years to procure officers of the Survey of India with the necessary experience of cadastral survey operations in Bengal to render their advice of any special practical value.

136. Khanapuri check.—The preliminary record was written up by the amin. It was tested by the Assistant Settlement Officers, Kanungos and Inspectors. The detailed system of check is laid down in the Ranchi Khanapuri rules; and a general description of the system will be found in Chapter XII of the Bengal Survey Manual. During the first three years of the operations, the total number of plots recorded was 1,246,214, of which 268,659 were tested by the Survey staff. This gives the very high incidence of 28 per cent. The table given below shows the incidence of check by the agency of the Settlement department during the last four years of the operations:—

Number of plots.	Plots tested by Assistant Settlement Officers.	Percentage of plots tested by Assistant Settlement Officers.	Plots tested by Kanungos and Head Inspectors.	Percentage of plots tested by Head Inspectors and Kanungos.	Plots tested by Inspectors.	Percentage of plots tested by Inspectors.	Percentage of plots checked by all agencies.
2,468,598	21,741	·9	34,809	1·4	2,63,948	10·7	13·

The minimum prescribed check is 12 per cent. The percentage of plots checked by the Survey of India staff amounted to 28 per cent.; and this is exclusive of plots tested by the Assistant Settlement Officers. It was, therefore, more than double the percentage of check by the agency of the Settlement department. The difference is remarkable, the more so as the class of agency employed was practically the same, and the supervising staff employed by the Settlement department was considerably larger. It is well to aim at a percentage of 15 per cent. all round; but, in my opinion, it is quite impossible to attain a standard of 28 per cent. without sacrificing the quality of the check, unless the number of Inspectors is largely increased.

137. *Khewats prepared by Assistant Settlement officers.*—The preparation of the *khewats* or records of proprietary rights was found a difficult task during the first year of the operations, especially in those Mundari *khuntkatti* village, in which the *khuntkatti* system had begun to decay. The Settlement Officers, Mr. Lister, was of opinion that the task could not be safely entrusted to Inspectors as in Behar; and the work was accordingly taken out of their hands and entrusted to the Assistant Settlement Officers. This was undoubtedly a move in the right direction, and the system has been since continued.

138. *Cycle of years in which a crop is grown on uplands.*—It is the custom in several parts of the district to cultivate uplands not every year, but once every two, three, or even four years. A column (*taidad sal*) was, therefore, provided in the *hasra* for the record of the cycle of years in which a crop is grown. In this column, the word one, two, three, etc., was entered, according as the field was found to be cultivated every year, every second, every third year, etc. Sometimes, it is the custom to grow crops in two successive years, and then leave the ground fallow for two or more years. In such cases the proper entries were obtained by dividing the total number of years in the cycle by the number of years in which crops were grown, ignoring fractions.

The form for crop statistics (*jinswar*), which are prepared from the *hasra*, contains two columns, gross and net, for every crop entered, except rice grown on *don* lands. The average net area under cultivation in the case of *tanr* lands was obtained by dividing the area of the land cropped by the number shown in the column for cycle of years (*taidad sal*). By comparing the columns gross and net, in the case of the principal crops, it is, therefore, possible to determine with considerable accuracy the custom in any village or thana. Thus by comparing the columns gross and net for *gora* rice, *urid*, *gondli* and *marua* in thana Sesai, it will be found that the general custom in that thana is to cultivate uplands every alternate year. A more accurate method of determining the custom is to subtract the total area of *don* (column 8 of the *milan hasra*) from the net cropped area of all kinds (column 37 of the *jinswar*). This gives the net cropped area of *tanr*, as it may be safely assumed that all *don* fields are cultivated every year. This latter figure should be compared with the gross cropped area of *tanr* land (column 14 of the *milan hasra*). The results for each thana or outpost are shown in the table given below, fractions of an acre being omitted:—

Name of thana or outpost.	Net cropped area of all kinds in acres (col. 37 of <i>jinswar</i>).	Area of <i>don</i> lands in acres (col. 8 of <i>milan hasra</i>).	Net cropped area of uplands in acres (<i>tanr</i>).	Total area of uplands (<i>tanr</i>) (col. 14 of <i>milan hasra</i>).	Cycle of years in which crops are grown in uplands (<i>tanr</i>).
Sisai	83,850	37,949	45,901	83,030	1·8
Palkot	32,456	17,325	15,131	36,225	2·4
Gumla	60,302	30,556	29,746	55,415	1·9
Ghaghra	47,623	23,756	23,867	51,931	2·2
Chainpur	72,895	28,969	43,926	105,488	2·4
Raidib	32,319	15,808	16,511	41,977	2·5
Kurdeg	41,868	18,548	23,320	48,080	2·1
Kochedega	92,434	39,554	52,880	105,572	2·0
Bishunpur	22,376	8,791	13,585	31,438	2·4
Bano	34,282	14,193	20,089	45,102	2·2
Kolebira	54,876	24,379	30,497	66,640	2·2
Basia	71,204	34,074	37,130	80,234	2·2
Kuru	37,318	20,720	16,598	19,368	1·2
Bero	59,054	25,816	33,238	38,171	1·1
Burmu	25,454	10,237	15,217	28,239	1·8
Lapung	34,290	14,493	19,797	34,195	1·7
Silti	28,129	18,113	10,016	18,498	1·8
Ormanjhi	21,986	10,808	11,178	17,421	1·6
Angara	28,639	12,757	15,882	29,978	1·9
Mandar	79,839	39,618	40,221	42,912	1·1
Ranchi	150,812	75,119	75,693	102,058	1·4
Lohardaga	121,641	64,991	59,650	80,494	1·3
Sonabatu	42,147	28,643	13,504	24,621	1·8
Tamar	81,003	48,478	32,525	67,593	2·1
Bundu	23,922	14,608	9,314	18,789	2·0
Khunti	84,818	43,610	41,208	94,222	2·3
Karra	56,173	21,814	34,359	59,705	1·7
Torpa	67,532	29,231	38,301	83,330	2·1

It will thus be seen that on the average uplands are cultivated approximately every year in Mandar, Bero, and Kuru, every alternate year in Sisai, Gumla, Ghaghra, Kurdeg, Kochedega, Bano, Kolebira, Basia, Burmu, Silli, Angara, Tamar, Bundu and Torpa, and every $2\frac{1}{2}$ years in Palkot, Chainpur, Raidih, Bishunpur, and Khunti. In Ranchi, Ormanjhi, Lohardaga, Lapung, and Karra the average cycle of cultivation is once in every $1\frac{1}{2}$ years.

The figures for individual villages may be similarly obtained from the statistical statements of the village itself. For individual tenancies the *khasra* must be referred to; but this will ordinarily be unnecessary, the custom being practically uniform for such small areas as village units. For the whole district, the approximate average cycle of cultivation of uplands is once in every two years. The cycle of cultivation of uplands is a very important consideration, when the question of rent settlement is being considered. It should be noted, however, that the first class uplands (*tanr I*) are cultivated every year. The total area of such lands in the district is comparatively small (70 square miles).

139. Delegation of powers by Settlement Officer as Superintendent of Survey.—The Settlement Officer was Superintendent of Survey for the whole district. As such, he delegated the following powers under the Survey Act, year by year, to the Assistant Settlement Officers, who were gazetted as Assistant Superintendents of Survey :—

- (1) power to issue a special notice under section 7 ;
- (2) power to issue a special notice under section 9 ;
- (3) power to decide disputes under Part V, provided the area affected did not exceed 20 acres;
- (4) power to summon and enforce the attendance of witnesses, and compel the production of documents under section 50 ;
- (5) power to fine under section 51 (b).

140. Distribution of parchas by Assistant Settlement Officers.—During the first three seasons, the *parchas* containing an abstract of the preliminary record were distributed to the landlords and raiyats by the amins at the conclusion of the operations in each village. It was found that this system gave rise to serious abuses, and that the amins almost invariably demanded payment from the villagers before they distributed these documents. As it was found impossible to stop the abuses by any other means, the duty of distributing *parchas* was transferred to the Assistant Settlement Officers at the commencement of the field season of 1905-06. From this date, the latter distributed the *parchas* at convenient centres to the residents of two or more villages. The system entails additional labour on the Assistant Settlement Officers, and adds about 10 or 12 days to the field season. But the change was unavoidable, having regard to the circumstances, and the system has worked successfully. During the season 1905-06, the Assistant Settlement Officers were able to distribute 98 per cent. of the *parchas* before the close of the field season, and similar high percentages were attained in succeeding years.

141. Khanapuri disputes.—The disputes dealt with at the khanapuri stage concerned all the entries in the record, except those relating to rent and status, which are dealt with at attestation. The most numerous were about possession of fields, rights in *korkar* and trees. As large numbers of these disputes together with others came up again at the attestation stage, it is unnecessary to discuss them here.

The table given below shows the number of disputes filed each season together with their incidence per square mile :—

Season.	Area khana- puried in square miles.	Number of plots.	Number of disputes instituted.	Number of disputes per square mile.	REMARKS.
1902-03	437	225,812	5,386	12	
1903-04	801	566,538	18,279	23	
1904-05	1,035	503,864	10,831	10	
1905-06	1,618	667,118	17,852	11	
1906-07	854	320,958	3,282	4	
1907-08	1,140	685,637	21,006	19	
1908-09	1,219	784,885	27,578	23	
Total	7,104	3,754,812	104,214	15	

The incidence of the disputes was heaviest in Mandar and Bero, and lightest in Chainpur, and Bishunpur. The disputes were all decided by the Assistant Settlement Officers, the functions of the Kanungos being confined to general supervision and scrutiny of the record-writing; all the disputes were decided during the field season.

142. Results of the decisions.—At attestation, when many of the disputes were retried by a more experienced and competent agency, the quality of the decisions was found to vary considerably. While the majority of the Assistant Settlement Officers were found to have disposed of the disputes with great care and thoroughness, instances of the contrary were found in the case of some of the younger and more inexperienced officers who displayed a tendency to shirk the labour involved in deciding correctly difficult cases. In the more remote and jungle areas, the decision of these disputes was a simple matter. The raiyats generally claimed lands of which they or their ancestors had been dispossessed often for generations; but, as there were no touts in the villages, and the disputes were decided promptly on the spot, they generally admitted the facts. In the areas near Ranchi, viz., Bero, Mandar, and parts of Lohardaga, the conditions were found to be very different. In almost every village, on account of the long-continued agrarian troubles and the varying and often contradictory decisions of the Courts, there are two factions, the landlords' and the raiyats'. The disputes were generally between persons belonging to these rival factions; and, as the disputants were supported by their partisans in almost every case, without any regard to the merits, the decision of the disputes was often attended with great difficulty. Specially selected officers were, however, deputed to these areas; and, though it is too much to hope that mistakes were not committed, the advantages derived from a close acquaintance with local conditions, aided by prompt local enquiry, were enormous; and I have no doubt that the percentage of errors in the decisions is small. It is to be regretted that there is no effective means of remedying such mistakes as have been made, except in very exceptional cases. In the conditions prevailing in those areas it is ordinarily futile for a Civil or Criminal Court dispensing justice at headquarters, to expect to arrive at more correct conclusions than those embodied in the settlement records. The argument that the cases are tried with greater detail and under a more elaborate procedure is largely a delusion; and, for all practical purposes, it would have been better if the settlement records were final and conclusive.

143. Necessity of careful enquiry into disputes at the khanapuri stage.—It is well-known that it is infinitely easier to arrive at correct conclusions regarding these disputes at the khanapuri stage than at subsequent stages. A year later, developments have usually taken place and evilly disposed persons have had time to fabricate evidence, and to instruct the witnesses. A prompt and careful decision at the khanapuri stage will frequently settle a dispute for ever. It is, therefore, important that Khanapuri Assistant Settlement Officers should record the reasons and grounds of the decisions with some detail. Admissions of parties or interested persons should be recorded with special care. If the attestation and objection officers are supplied with a record of disputes thus carefully disposed of, they have a sound basis to go on, and the chances of errors are enormously minimised.

144. Recess work, cadastral.—After the cadastral operations were transferred to the control of the Settlement department, the recess work was organized on new lines. The system in vogue is described in Chapters XIV to XIX of the Survey Manual of 1908. It is, therefore, unnecessary to describe it here. The recess work was completed each year with ease before the 30th September, the end of the settlement year.

145. Cadastral survey and khanapuri cost rates.—The total cost of the survey and preliminary record-writing in the 2,273 square miles completed by the officers of the Survey of India amounted to Rs. 2,37,411, which gives an incidence of Rs. 105 per square mile. The total cost of the similar operations carried out by the Settlement department in the remaining area of 4,831 square miles amounted to Rs. 4,72,567, which gives an incidence of Rs. 98 per square mile. It should be noted that the settlement cost rates include expenditure on the supervision of record-writing by Assistant Settlement Officers and Kanungos, and the decision of boundary disputes by the former agency

This item is, of course, not included in the Survey of India rates, as the supervision and the disposal of the disputes were always under the control of the Settlement Officers, and the expenditure was consequently debited to the Settlement department. The cost of this supervision amounted to not less than Rs. 11 per square mile. For purposes of comparison, the respective rates for work carried out by the Settlement department and the Survey of India were, therefore, Rs. 87 and Rs. 105 per square mile. From the year 1905, when the control of the operations was taken over by the Settlement department, the contract rates payable to amins and muharrirs were considerably increased, as was also the pay of the supervising agency of Inspectors and Head Inspectors. The Settlement department was, however, enabled to effect large economies mainly owing to two causes, viz., large compact blocks were surveyed (1618, 854, 1,140, and 1,219 square miles), and the charges were consequently distributed over larger areas than in previous years; the programme was completed more rapidly, and there was consequently a considerable decrease in the cost of charges under the head of supervision and control. The table given below shows the distribution of the expenditure on cadastral survey and khanapuri operations since the cold weather of 1905 :—

Description of charges.		Total expenditure.	Cost rate per square mile.
		Rs.	Rs.
Detailed survey	...	1,87,843	89
Khanapuri	...	1,26,653	26
Completion of maps	...	49,328	10
Area computing	...	35,873	8
Completion of records	...	72,870	15
Total	...	4,72,567	98

BOUNDARY DISPUTES.

146. Procedure.—Disputes as to whether a particular area lies in one village or another are dealt with as boundary disputes, and decided under the Survey Act by Settlement Officers, in virtue of their powers as Assistant Superintendents of Survey. The general procedure is laid down in Chapter X of the Bengal Survey Manual. The Settlement Officer as Superintendent of Survey delegated powers to the Assistant Superintendents of Survey in charge of circles to decide the disputes, provided the area affected did not exceed 20 acres. In the latter case, the Assistant Superintendents of Survey made a local enquiry and referred the dispute for decision to the covenanted officer in charge of the whole area, who was vested with the necessary powers to decide all kinds of boundary disputes, and he decided it.

147. Number instituted.—The table given below shows the number of disputes instituted year by year, with the number per every 10 square miles, and the results of appeals :—

Year.	Number of boundary disputes instituted.	Number of appeals instituted.	NUMBER OF CASES IN WHICH THE ORIGINAL DECISION WAS			Number of boundary disputes per every 10 square miles.
			Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1902-03	264	33	32	1		4.2
1903-04	570	50	39	8	3	7.6
1904-05	399	35	23	6	1	4.3
1905-06	457	58	53	4	1	2.8
1906-07	206	20	13	5	2	2.4
1907-08	371	48	42	3	3	3.2
1908-09	449	93	78	5	10	3.7
Total	2,716	337	285	32	20	3.8

The number of villages in the district is 3,954. So there were about three disputes to every two villages.

148. Appeals.—The appeals of the first year were heard by the Commissioner; but in subsequent years, they were decided by the Settlement Officer as Superintendent of Survey. Appeals were preferred in 337 cases, or 12 per cent. of the total number. The decisions were upheld in 84 per cent. of cases and modified or reversed in the remainder.

A very considerable percentage of the cases were, however, remanded for further enquiry at attestation (about 10 per cent.) before the appeals were decided, as some of the more inexperienced officers failed to record sufficient details, or to give adequate grounds for their decisions.

149. Disputes decided by Boundary Commissioner.—Mr. Lister, I.C.S., Settlement Officer, decided three important disputes between Ranchi and the adjoining Feudatory States, being specially appointed Boundary Commissioner for the purpose. The decision of the Boundary Commissioner according to the *amads* regulating the relations of the Feudatory States with the British Government is final and conclusive.

The disputes were—

- (1) Between pargana Tamar of Ranchi district and Kharsawan State, decided in 1902-03.
- (2) Between Ranchi and Gangpur State, decided in 1904-05.
- (3) Between Ranchi and Jashpur State, decided in 1906-07.

The lines of boundary laid down were continuously demarcated.

Mr. Sifton, I.C.S., also decided, as Boundary Commissioner, a small dispute between Surguja State and Ranchi in the year 1907-08.

150. Character of the boundary disputes and the grounds of decision.—It costs nothing to institute a boundary dispute. The consequence was that nearly half of the disputes instituted were frivolous or fictitious. It is an unfortunate fact, but one for which it is not easy to suggest a remedy, that these disputes are fomented from corrupt motives by the subordinate agency of amins and Inspectors. Ignorant and illiterate zamindars indulge in them as a species of mild speculation. There is nothing to lose, and something may be gained. A conspicuous instance of the abuse of the right to lodge these disputes occurred in the first season's area. The Thakur of Mardhan contested the boundaries of all his villages generally without a shadow of right. No improvement can, however, be expected in this matter until the Survey Act is amended, and power is given to the Assistant Superintendents to assess damages on litigants, who institute frivolous or fictitious cases.

The disputes varied enormously in importance, the areas affected ranging from one to about 2,000 acres. In those parts of the district, in which jungle and waste largely predominated, the limits of villages were found to be very undefined, and the parties themselves could not point out with any degree of exactness the limits of their property. They, therefore, made extravagant claims. There was no previous revenue survey throughout the district. Under section 41 of the Survey Act, the Court is obliged to determine the boundary according to actual possession. Considerable difficulties were, however, experienced in determining actual possession in many areas. In several instances it was found that neither party could bring forward proof of exclusive possession in jungle areas lying on the borders of their villages. The raiyats of adjacent villages, it was found, generally exercised in them the customary right to take wood for fuel and domestic purposes. In such cases, the Assistant Superintendents of Survey endeavoured to obtain evidence of title, and to decide the dispute on the balance of the evidence available, it being presumed that possession was with the party, whose title was clear or best proved.

Even with regard to cultivated lands, clear evidence of possession by one village landlord was not always available. It does not follow, because the raiyats of village A cultivate a strip of land in dispute, that the landlord of village B is not the real *malik*. It is quite a common practice in Chota Nagpur for the raiyats of two conterminous villages to prepare rice-lands from the jungle or waste lands on the borders of their respective villages. If the raiyats of one village are more numerous, and the struggle for land is more intense, they will naturally go further afield, and take up suitable areas for

reclamation, without any regard to the fact whether the land is situated within the boundaries of their parent village or not. Very few landlords object to the preparation of *korkar* or *khandwat* lands, whether the pioneers are men of their own village or not, and no objections are raised, until a survey is made or the question of rent is mooted. The settlers are in fact mere squatters at first, and the real criterion of possession is not whether they belong to village A or B, but whether they have paid rent to the landlord of A or of B. In the absence of evidence of such payments, it was found necessary to seek further evidence of possession, and, if this was not available, it was found necessary to fall back on the question of title.

There were, however, some few cases involving large blocks of jungle and waste lands, in which neither evidence of title or possession was forthcoming. In these cases, the officer, who enquired locally, had to look to the physical features. It is well-known that, as villages were parcelled out, physical features were the distinguishing marks by which their limits were determined, and, in the absence of other evidence, it is fair to presume that these natural physical features are the correct boundaries. Such distinguishing features are rivers, the crests of hills, *nalas*, streams, etc.

151. *Value of the topographical map.*—The question of the evidentiary value of topographical maps in cases of disputed boundary came up frequently for discussion during the hearing of appeals from the decisions of Assistant Superintendents of Survey. In all the cases, which I have examined locally, I found the topographical maps of no value as evidence of the exact district or pargana boundaries. Topographical surveyors have no authority to entertain, or to decide disputes; and, as a matter of fact, they usually merely survey the line of boundary, which seems most likely to be the true one at the time of the survey. This is, of course, a matter of opinion, and, as no notices are served on parties and no evidence is taken, and no enquiry is made, it would be evidently unfair to attach any weight to a map prepared under such conditions. As a matter of experience, it is found that the subordinate agents of the topographical party frequently fail to survey the exact line of boundary, even when there is no dispute. The scales on which the maps are prepared do not admit of boundaries being shown with great exactness, and there is always the temptation in such circumstances, when an area of even a square mile distributed along a stretch of boundary, is of little importance, to take the line of least resistance, and, this is, no doubt, frequently done. The Surveyor-General (Colonel Longe) delivered the following opinion in March, 1910 on the question of the evidentiary value of topographical maps:—

“The scales on which topographical surveys are made and published in India are generally insufficiently large to admit of boundaries being shown in full detail.

2. Topographical surveyors are not allowed to enquire into, or decide, disputes connected with boundaries of any description. If, during the course of a survey, it comes to the knowledge of a surveyor that the position of a boundary is disputed, it is his duty to show on his map the run of each boundary as claimed by the rival parties, but the absence of alternative lines on a map does not necessarily indicate that no dispute existed at the time of survey or that the boundary as shown on the map is necessarily correct. The line shown by the Surveyor on his map is generally that pointed out to him locally during survey operations and nothing more.

3. In no case do topographical surveyors survey village boundaries, except such as are at the same time the boundaries of more important administrative areas, such as tahsils, parganas, etc.

4. Where a boundary has been authoritatively settled under a local law or special proceedings, a special map will usually have been prepared and reference should be made to such a map rather than to the topographical map of the area concerned.”

152. *Necessity of a map to define the area in dispute.*—A noticeable feature of the boundary disputes was the number of them, which had been already adjudicated on by the Civil Courts. In several cases, however, no maps had been prepared, and the lands in dispute had been defined in a conventional way by reference to trees, hillocks, *nalas*, etc. These cases came up again, but in several of them it was found impossible to give effect to the Civil Court decisions, even though they were conclusive as regards title and possession, owing to the fact that the subject-matter of dispute had been loosely described

or defined. In jungle and hill areas, the rival parties had often no difficulty in pointing out two sets of totally different boundaries as the boundaries detailed in the decree; and after careful local enquiry, it was not always possible to determine conclusively which was the boundary decreed. The fact illustrates the futility of taking and sifting evidence, and putting litigants to great expense, when the subject matter of the suit is not clearly defined. The net result is frequently to perpetuate litigation and strife. It is to be hoped that in future the Civil Courts will consult the cadastral maps, and insist on parties defining their claims in terms of fields, when land is the subject of dispute.

ATTESTATION.

153. On the conclusion of the record-writing in the field, the records are prepared in the survey office for attestation. The areas of all plots are entered in the *khatians*, and totalled, so that each *khatian* shows the area of one tenancy or holding. The attestation field season usually begins towards the end of October.

154. *Procedure in attestation.*—The procedure followed at attestation is fully described in the rules of the Chota Nagpur settlement. It is unnecessary to describe it in detail here. The attestation of the preliminary record means briefly that all entries in the records affecting the interests of landlords and tenants, including the particulars of each field, are read out to them at convenient centres situated not more than 3 miles from the villages in which the lands affected lie, in the presence of an Assistant Settlement Officer. When this process is completed and all mistakes are corrected, the Assistant Settlement Officer proceeds to decide disputes, to ascertain and record the status of each landlord and tenant, and to ascertain and record the rent payable in respect of each tenancy (if any). All prædial conditions (*rakumats* and *begari*) are commuted to cash payments, which are amalgamated with the money rent, and a record of customary local rights in jungle is prepared. After the completion of attestation, the record is corrected in accordance with the orders passed by the Assistant Settlement Officer, the corrections are checked by the camp peshkar, and the record is then draft published.

155. *Annual progress.*—The following statement shows the progress of the work year by year, together with other details:—

Serial number.	Season.	Number of villages.	Area in square miles.	Number of plots attested.	Average size of plots in acres.	Total number of <i>khatians</i> .	Total number of Darraiyati <i>khatians</i> .	Total number of <i>khatians</i> of all kinds.	Average area included in each <i>khatian</i> in acres.	Average number of plots in each <i>khatian</i> .	Average number of <i>khatians</i> per square mile
1	1903-04	282	437	225,812	1·24	17,086	416	17,502	15·98	18	40(a)
2	1904-05	600	801	566,538	0·90	54,312	2,649	56,961	9·00	10	71(b)
3	1905-06	540	1,035	503,864	1·30	43,606	1,969	45,575	14·53	11	44(c)
4	1906-07	558	1,618	669,911	1·54	45,686	1,695	47,381	21·86	14	29(d)
5	1907-08	890	854	822,028	1·69	24,054	956	25,010	21·85	13	30(e)
6	1908-09	712	1,140	709,450	1·03	80,680	3,669	84,349	8·65	■	74(f)
7	1909-10	872	1,219	808,040	0·97	83,546	7,735	91,281	8·54	■	75(g)
Total ...		3,954	7,104	3,800,643	1·19	348,970	19,089	368,059	12·35	10	52

(a) Khunti and Tamar (portion).

(b) Tamar (portion), Sonahatu, Bundu, and Torpa.

(c) Torpa (portion), Karra, Basia (portion), Bano, and Kolebira.

(d) Basia (portion), Gumla, Raidih, Palkot, Kurdeg, and Kochedega.

(e) Ghaghra, Chainpur, and Bishunpur.

(f) Lohardaga, Semi, Lapuna, Bere, and Kuru.

(g) Burma, Ormanjhi, Ranchi, Angara, Silli, and Mandar.

The season referred to in column 2 is the one succeeding the year of survey.

The programme was completed year by year without difficulty; but on some occasions the work of various attestation officers was prolonged well into the hot weather.

156. Average number of fields per square mile.—The average number of fields to the square mile for the whole district is 535 only. A field is defined to mean a plot or contiguous plots of the same class of land held in the same right and under the same landlord by the same tenant, or group of tenants holding jointly in the same tenancy. If a group of tenants, holding one tenancy jointly, were found to cultivate separately, the lands cultivated by each member were surveyed separately as fields, as were also portions of an area, which would otherwise be considered one field, if found in the occupation of a mortgagee, sub-lessee, or vendee.

157. Distribution of area slips abolished.—During the earlier stages of the operations in the Munda country, area slips were distributed to the raiyats at the attestation stage. It was found, however, that they had no conception of areas expressed in acres and decimals, the local units being indefinite standards of measurement known as *pawas* and *kats*, and that it was, therefore, a mere waste of time to distribute the area slips. Their distribution also, it was found, facilitated extortion by the survey and settlement subordinates; they were accordingly discontinued under orders of the Board of Revenue, contained in their letter No. 6768A., dated the 23rd August, 1904.

158. Identification of Bhuinhari lands.—*Bhuinhari* lands were demarcated, and maps and registers showing their position and extent were prepared by the Special Commissioners under the provisions of the Chota Nagpur Tenures Act [Act II (B. C.) of 1869.] The registers are conclusive evidence of the character and incidents of the tenures recorded in them. It was, therefore, necessary to identify these lands with accuracy, and to record their special incidents in the settlement records.

The following procedure was adopted for this purpose:—

The khanapuri officers were supplied with copies of the *Bhuinhari* registers, to assist them in the preparation of the *khewats* for each of the different divisions and subdivisions (*khunts* of *bhuinhars*). All tenancies recorded under Act II of 1869 are by law tenures, and have, therefore, to be entered in the *khewat*. The field staff were required to compare all the fields claimed as *bhuinhari* on the spot with the copies of the *bhuinhari* maps supplied by the *bhuinhars* or their landlords. A detailed survey of all the fields claimed was made. The exact identification of the fields could not be completed in the field, however, as the relative positions of all the *bhuinhari* blocks (*chaks*) could not be determined with accuracy, until the survey of the entire village was completed. It was also impossible to entrust a work of such importance to the subordinate agency. The final identification of the *bhuinhari* blocks (*chaks*) was, therefore, done in recess under the supervision of experienced Assistant Settlement Officers. The original *bhuinhari* maps were obtained from the Deputy Commissioner's record-room, and a list of the *chaks* with their areas was made out from the original registers.

A list of all the fields claimed as *bhuinhari* was prepared from the *khatians*.

The *bhuinhari chaks* were then projected by placing the village map on the original *bhuinhari* map, and comparing the two carefully with the help of a tracing glass. All the projections were checked by the Assistant Settlement Officers. The original *bhuinhari* maps were not always found free from inaccuracies or discrepancies. The survey was not based on a traverse, and the relative positions of the different *chaks* were for the most part fixed by chaining the distances from the corners of one *chak* to those of the others.

Correct chaining is very difficult of accomplishment in hilly and broken country, and the relative position of the *chaks* was, therefore, found to be sometimes incorrect. There was, however, little difficulty in identifying them. The peripheries of the *chaks* had been surveyed very carefully and accurately, and by shifting the maps about, it was possible to identify them with certainty in the maps of the present survey. The demarcation stone marks of the *bhuinhari* blocks were shown in position in the maps of the present survey, and these also greatly assisted the identification. Several of the stone marks were, however, found to be missing.

The projection being finally passed, a second list showing the plots or portions of plots dealt with, which, according to the projection, should or should not be recorded as *bhuinhari*, was prepared. This list being passed by the Assistant Settlement Officer, a third list was prepared, showing—

- (i) Plots which had been rightly claimed as *bhuinhari*.
- (ii) Plots which had been wrongly claimed as *bhuinhari*.
- (iii) Plots which had not been claimed as *bhuinhari*, but which should be recorded as such.

The records and maps were corrected accordingly.

The most difficult part of the procedure was the preparation of a list of subdivisions of surveyed plots, where only portions of the plots as surveyed had been found to be *bhuinhari*. The procedure adopted was to eliminate small discrepancies by a method of "give and take," and to allow for large ones by making new plots (*tukras*). Very minute subdivisions, which did not exceed 20 links in breadth, were disregarded, but large numbers of plots had to be subdivided. The details as to the *kiaris* and number of trees in the subdivided plots were enquired into at attestation and recorded, and, when the *tukras* concerned lowlands, a local enquiry was made by the amin attached to the attestation camp in order to find out the boundary (*ail* or *merh*) on the ground, which most nearly corresponded to the new line of boundary marked in the map. The actual boundary on the ground was surveyed, and afterwards noted in the original maps. In the case of uplands, no such enquiries were made, so that the lines subdividing the plots in the latter case do not usually correspond to any actual physical boundaries on the ground. The original map sheets were found to have expanded or contracted owing to damp or heat; and this added to the difficulties of accurate identification, and complicated the decision of the question, whether plots should be subdivided or not. The *bhuinhari* survey was on the whole well done, considering the difficulties of survey on a non-traverse basis, and the lack of anything approaching a complete system of organization.

159. Disputes.—The incidence of disputes varied greatly in different parts; but throughout the district the subjects of dispute were much the same. They related chiefly to rent, prædial conditions, rights in trees, claims to *korkar* and possession of fields. There were hardly any disputes about the status of raiyats, and the customary rights of tenants in jungle and waste lands. The disputes were most difficult in thanas Mandar, Bero, Ranchi, and Lohardaga.

160. Status.—The status return for the district will be found in Appendix VI.

A noticeable feature of the returns is the high percentage of non-occupancy holdings recorded during the first four years' operations. The explanation is that the law of the "settled raiyat" was not in force in Chota Nagpur till Act VI of 1908 came into force (11th November, 1908). The immediate effect of the new Act was to give legal recognition to the existence of occupancy rights in a much higher percentage of holdings. The table given below shows the results of the working of the Act in this respect:—

ATTESTATION YEAR.	Total number of ordinary raiyati holdings, excluding <i>khunt-katti</i> , <i>masi</i> , <i>brit</i> , and homesteads.	Number of non-occupancy holdings.	Percentage of non-occupancy holdings.
1903-04	8,688	2,782	32
1904-05	33,972	7,967	23
1905-06	26,561	5,726	22
1906-07	35,222	9,560	27
1907-08	20,036	4,771	24
1908-09	55,304	4,602	8
1909-10	61,463	3,825	6

The immediate result of the introduction of the principle of the "settled raiyat" was to reduce the percentage of non-occupancy raiyats, who were then treated by the Courts as mere tenants-at-will, from an average of 26 to an average of 7 per cent. The very high percentages of non-occupancy rights recorded in the earlier years points to the fact that the agrarian conflict had

resulted in a considerable disturbance of possession, which was found to be due to dispossession and forcible resumption of lands by the landlords, and to emigration and abandonment of holdings by the raiyats.

The high percentage of non-occupancy raiyats is the more remarkable, as, according to the ancient custom of the district, when a tenant is once admitted to occupation and the bargain as to rent is concluded, he is in the same position with regard to fixity of tenure and liability to enhancement as the old raiyats of the village.

The idea of 12 years' cultivation conferring a right of occupancy is an entirely foreign conception; and the extension of the principle of the "settled raiyat" is only a partial recognition of the usage of the district.

The criterion by which the accrual of occupancy rights was decided during the first five years of the settlement operations was that of 12 years' possession, according to the provisions of section 6 of Act I (B.C.) of 1879, the repealed Chota Nagpur Tenancy Act. This procedure, it now appears, was incorrect. It was never intended by the Legislature to override or supersede customary rights and usages, which were not expressly abolished by, or which were not clearly inconsistent with, the provisions of the statute law. Wherever, therefore, it was found that occupancy rights accrued by custom or local usage on the admission of the tenant to occupation of the tenancy, his right of occupancy should have been recorded altogether independent of the provisions of law. As this was almost universally the case, it seems clear that it was an injustice to the raiyats to record such large numbers of them as non-occupancy raiyats. The mistake has now, however, been rectified in the vast majority of cases, as, under the new law, most of the non-occupancy raiyats recorded are settled raiyats of the villages in which they reside.

161. Under-raiyats.—The total number of under-raiyats recorded was 19,955. There are no provisions in the statute law regulating the rights of under-raiyats. Their rights are, therefore, regulated by the criterion of contract and local usage or custom. According to these criteria, under-raiyats are with few exceptions mere tenants-at-will. There is no recognized limit to the enhancement of their rents; and they are liable to ejection for refusing to agree to enhancement. Under-raiyats, who prepare *korkar* lands, acquire, however, by local custom occupancy rights in the portion converted into *korkar*.

162. Mundari khuntkatti tenancies.—The total number of Mundari *khuntkatti* tenancies recorded was 10,146, nearly all of which are in Khunti, Tamar, Sonahatu, Bundu, and Torpa. The record of the rights and incidents of these tenancies is final and conclusive, *vide* section 256, Chota Nagpur Tenancy Act.

163. Khuntkatti tenancies.—The total number of *khuntkatti* tenancies recorded was 938 only. *Khuntkatti* is merely a local variant for *bhuinhari*. Wherever no operations were carried out under the Chota Nagpur Tenures Act, *bhui hari* or *khuntkatti* lands were recorded, but further claims were barred in all villages, to which the *bhuinhari* operations extended. As these extended to only a small fraction of the Munda country, one of the most important duties of the Settlement Officers was the preparation of the record of Mundari *khuntkatti* rights in this area. As stated above, 10,146 such tenancies were recorded. The 938 *khuntkatti* tenancies recorded belong to non-Mundaris. The smallness of the number is attributable to the fact that the operations of the Special Commissioners covered nearly the whole area, in which claims to *khuntkatti* were made by the aboriginal tribes, except the Munda country. There are some slight differences in the incidents of the two kinds of tenancies. Mundari *khuntkattidars* are neither tenure-holders nor raiyats, but they are tenants. In the case of other *khuntkattidars*, the special privileges, which are defined and protected in the Tenancy law, relate solely to raiyati interests. A *khuntkatti* tenure-holder has no special privileges under the statute law. *Khuntkatti* tenancies may also be sold for arrears of rent, and the rent may be recovered under ordinary process of law, whereas a Mundari *khuntkattidar* tenancy is now not transferable by sale, save in the special cases referred to in section 240 of the Chota Nagpur Tenancy Act. The origin and characteristics of both kinds of tenancies are discussed in the succeeding chapter.

164. Record of khuntkatti final in certain areas.—The record relating to *khuntkatti* tenancies prepared under the notifications issued under section 127 of the Chota Nagpur Tenancy Act is final and conclusive (*vide* section 132). Such a record was prepared under notification No. 4167 L.R., dated the 11th November, 1908, in thanas Lohardaga (including outposts Kuru and Bero), Sisai, Lapung, Mandar, Silli and Ranchi (including outposts Angara and Ormanjhi.)

Khuntkatti tenancies were recorded in other parts of the district; but the entries are not conclusive. Their evidentiary value is the same as that attaching to ordinary entries in the settlement record, under the provisions of section 84(3) of the Chota Nagpur Tenancy Act.

165. *Geirahi holdings*.—There were 706 holdings locally known as “geirahi” recorded. Almost all these holdings are situated in thanas Lohardaga, Ranchi, and Mandar. All lands surveyed under the Chota Nagpur Tenures Act as *bhutkheta* or land dedicated to the service of the village deities (*bhuts*) are commonly known in these tracts as “geirahi.” The incidents of the *bhutkheta* lands are defined in the registers, which were prepared under Act II (B.C.) of 1869. The origin of the “geirahi” holdings, which were not demarcated under that Act, is not clear. Some of them were possibly omitted from the survey under the Act of 1869, by mistake; and, in some cases, it is likely that the lands have been set aside since that survey, and dedicated to the same purposes. They are a kind of service holding at the disposal of the Mahato (headman) and Pahan (chief priest) of the village. They are cultivated by the raiyats; but the Mahato and Pahan generally exercise the right to make new settlements every three years, or at other fixed intervals. By local usage, occupancy rights do not accrue in them. The proceeds of the lands are expended in stated festivals in *Ashar*, *Aghan*, and *Chait*, after the manner of the aborigines, in the worship of the village *bhuts*. The landlords very rarely disputed claims to “geirahi”, but in the estates of a few non-resident landlords, instances were not wanting of attempts on the part of the Mahatos and Pahan to appropriate ordinary abandoned raiyati holdings as “geirahi.” “Mardana” lands are a species of “geirahi”, the difference being that the women of the village are not allowed any share in the proceeds from the former.

166. *Trijunction marks*.—The rules for the erection of trijunction marks will be found in pages 13 to 17 of the Bengal Survey Manual. The attestation officers’ duties are defined in rules 553 to 557 of the Settlement Manual. In Ranchi district, cairns consisting of a heap of stones not less than four feet high and not less than six feet in diameter at the base, with a beam embedded in the centre to a depth of not less than three feet, were erected at the junction points of every three or more villages. The surveyor attached to each attestation camp checked the position and quality of each mark at attestation, by reference to the trijunction mark map with which each camp was supplied. The Attestation Officer himself checked the position and quality of at least ten per cent. of the marks. Discrepancies were rectified, and the cairns re-erected or repaired, where necessary. In a few villages, in which stones were not available in sufficient quantities, large single slabs of stone were embedded at the trijunction points. Maps and registers in the prescribed form showing the number of such marks, were made over to the Deputy Commissioner of the district; and it is understood that the marks have been distributed for care and custody to the Police Sub-Inspectors and the chaukidars under them. These marks will be found invaluable as starting points in revision operations, and they will be found useful, if not essential, in topographical surveys.

They also serve to demarcate the limits of villages, and thus to obviate disputes as to village boundaries. The system of demarcation by cairns is preferable to single stones. The latter may be removed in a few minutes by any ill-disposed persons; whereas the labour involved in removing cairns is considerable, and their disappearance is likely to attract attention at once. It is to be hoped that the District Officers will pay attention to the up-keep of the marks. Apart from their value as starting points in future operations, it is not easy to exaggerate their importance as permanent marks of the limits of villages, estates, and tenures. The system of demarcating estates is likely to spread in the district. At least one zamindar, the Bara Lal of Palkot, has at present employed a staff to further demarcate by stone marks the boundaries of all his villages and khas lands, using the cadastral maps as the basis of the work. The cost of litigation regarding the boundaries of his estate has been so great that, now that he has an authoritative record to go on, he thinks that it is essential to demarcate its limits. If other zamindars could be induced to follow his example, a frequent source of litigation would be removed.

167. *Standard laggis*.—The local standards of measurement, *pawas*, *annas*, *kats*, etc., are quite indefinite and variable, and, in order to familiarize the

people with the use of the acre and decimal system, in which all entries as to areas were made in the records, an attempt was made at each attestation centre to explain the unit of measurement. For this purpose, each Assistant Settlement Officer in charge of attestation was supplied with a standard *laggi* about 10 feet $5\frac{1}{4}$ inches long. A plot of land of the same length and breadth as two of these *laggis* is equivalent to $\frac{1}{100}$ of an acre, i.e., the "cent." (01) entered in the area column of the *khatians*. The Assistant Settlement Officer explained the system of measurement by these *laggis* at each attestation centre, and made over a bamboo *laggi* of the same length to the headmen of each village.

168. *Correct village names.*—After the completion of the attestation of each village, the Assistant Settlement Officer made a careful enquiry regarding the correct village name, and entered it both in Hindi and in English in Register III. The transliteration of the name from the vernacular was made according to the Hunterian system, all vowels being properly accented. The names as entered in the register are subsequently entered in the original village maps, the records, the thana maps, and thana indices.

DRAFT PUBLICATION.

169. *System.*—The system of draft publication of the records was the same as the system followed in Behar and other parts of Bengal, viz., a Kanungo of the attestation camp went to each village with the records as soon as they were ready, and read them out in presence of the villagers and the landlord's agent. The parties were allowed a month from the date of draft publication within which to lodge objections against any entry under section 83(1) of the Chota Nagpur Tenancy Act. The draft publication was inspected by the Assistant Settlement Officer who paid visits at irregular intervals to the centres where draft publication was going on.

170. *Defects of the system.*—The system, notwithstanding the attempts made to improve it, has never worked successfully. Its obvious defects are that there is no guarantee, in the absence of efficient and reliable supervision on the spot, that the clerk deputed will take the trouble to make the persons interested understand the nature of the entries made regarding their tenancies. The opportunities for extortion by the publication Kanungos are also so to speak unlimited. As a matter of fact, it was found by experience that they almost invariably demanded payment from any persons who wanted special information as to the numbers of plots or other details necessary before objections could be filed. Several Kanungos were prosecuted from time to time, but even this was not found an effective remedy.

171. *Amended system.*—In 1910, Mr. McPherson, one of the Assistant Settlement Officers in charge of an attestation camp, under my orders had the draft publication done at his camp head-quarters. The experiment proved a complete success. The opinions of the landlords and raiyats were taken, and they were strongly in favour of the new system. The only objection, which can be urged against it, is that the landlords and raiyats are obliged to come again to the head-quarters of the camp some days after the attestation has been completed to hear the entries read out. The trouble involved is, however, more apparent than real. In the area attested by Mr. McPherson, the average distance travelled by the villagers to hear the entries read out was about two miles only. Those persons, who wished to lodge objections, obtained objection forms from the Assistant Settlement Officer, and were able to file their objections at once, thus saving themselves the trouble involved in making longer journeys later on. A report on the subject was submitted to the Director of Land Records, and the Government rules framed under the Tenancy Act were amended so as to admit of the publication being made either at the Attestation Officer's head-quarters, or in the village itself. There is little doubt that the former system will become the rule, and that the publication in the village will be resorted to only in special cases, when correction of the records has been unavoidably delayed.

To work the system successfully, the following points need to be attended to :—

- (i) The area included in each attestation centre should be smaller than formerly.
- (ii) The records should be corrected promptly after the disposal of disputes, so that they can be draft published at the same centre at which the attestation was done.

- (iii) The Assistant Settlement Officer should inspect the draft publication for a few minutes every day, in order to see that the publication clerk is explaining the entries intelligently and complying with all requests for information.

If the Assistant Settlement Officers do their duty properly and see that the publication is done carefully and intelligently, the result must be to raise the standard of accuracy considerably.

OBJECTIONS.

172. *General.*—After draft publication, the record was kept open for a month for the inspection of parties concerned. During this period objections to any entry in, or omission from, the record were received at the Attestation Officer's camp head-quarters, and after the conclusion of the attestation programme, at head-quarters in Ranchi. In special cases, the Settlement Officer extended the period of one month. The objections were disposed of at fixed centres, generally one or two for each thana or outpost by selected officers with considerable experience of settlement work. The objection stage is the last stage of the operations, at which detailed enquiries are made before the record is finally published. It is, therefore, important that the disposal of those disputes should be entrusted only to specially qualified officers, if a high standard of accuracy is to be attained.

The objection officers were obliged to consider fully the grounds given by the Khanapuri and Attestation Officers in the decisions of all disputes, and to give the grounds of their own decisions at greater length in all seriously contested cases. The work was generally prolonged into the rains; and, during the last two seasons, in which objections were particularly numerous, the programme was not completed till the end of September. The number of officers employed varied from two to seven, according to the number of objections to be dealt with year by year.

173. *Number of objections.*—The number of objections filed is shown in the table given below, year by year:—

Year.	Thana or outpost.	Area in square miles.	Number of objections under section 103A of the B. T. Act or section 8(1) of the C. N. T. Act.	Allowed.	Disallowed.	Number of objections per square mile.
1903-04 ...	Khunti (except one village) and Tamar (portion).	437	1,250	362	888	3.0
1904-05 ...	Torpa (portion), Bundu, Tamar (portion) and Sonahatu (except two villages).	801	6,797	1,162	5,635	8.5
1905-06 ...	Torpa (portion), Karra (except six villages) Kalebira, Bano, Basia (portion) and one village of Kochedega.	1,035	4,138	859	3,279	4.0
1906-07 ...	Basia (portion), Kochedega, Kurdeg, Gumla, Palkot and Raidih.	1,618	3,324	760	2,564	2.1
1907-08 ...	Bishunpur, Ohainpur, Ghaghra and two villages of Lohardaga.	854	1,688	360	1,328	2.0
1908-09 ...	Six villages of Karra, Kuru (except two villages), Bero, four villages of Mandar and two of Ranchi, Lapung, Sesai and Lohardaga.	1,140	9,954	2,653	7,301	8.7
1909-10 ...	Angara, Ormanjhi, Burmu, Silli, Ranchi, Mandar, one village of Khunti, two of Sonahatu, three of Kuru and one of Bero.	1,219	12,607	2,761	9,846	10.3
	Total ...	7,104	39,758	8,917	30,836	5.6

The number of disputes dealt with at the khanapuri stage was 104,214. Large numbers of additional disputes concerning rent and prædial conditions, and a smaller number concerning status were instituted at the attestation stage. The exact figures are not available. They numbered probably not less than 30,000. By the time the objection stage was reached, more than three-fourths of the total number of disputes had been, therefore, eliminated, the previous decisions having been acquiesced in by the parties. The last two seasons' areas account for more than half the total number of objections filed. The disputes were most difficult in Mandar and Bero.

174. *Percentage allowed.*—The percentage of objections allowed was 22 for the whole district. In the Darbhanga and Purnea settlements, 36 and 29 per cent. respectively of the objections were allowed.

175. *Classification of objections.*—The objections dealt with were of the same general character as the disputes disposed of at attestation. At the objection stage, the disputes are, however, classified.

The table given below shows the results of this classification for the whole district:—

				Number of disputes.	Percentage of total number.
Possession	...	...	...	26,410	66.4
Rent	...	...	...	4,996	12.6
Status	...	...	...	1,596	4.0
Title	...	...	...	1,624	4.1
Trees	...	...	...	2,905	7.3
Remeasurement and miscellaneous	...	...	...	2,222	5.6

The most marked feature of the Ranchi returns is the high percentage of disputes regarding possession of fields. The figures point to the fact that there has been a considerable disturbance in the possession of cultivating tenancies, during the long period of agrarian agitation. Nearly all the disputes were about the possession of individual fields. The raiyats generally tried to get back what they had lost. Most of the disputes regarding rent affected all the villagers.

176. *Number of objections filed in Behar districts.*—The number of objections filed in some of the Behar settlements under section 103A of the Bengal Tenancy Act is shown below, district by district:—

District.				Number of objec- tions filed.	Number per square mile.
Muzaffarpur	...	...	...	34,271	11
Saran	...	...	...	66,105	27
Darbhangha	...	...	...	76,601	23
North Monghyr	...	...	...	22,427	16
Purnea	...	...	...	84,872	19

177. *Objections regarding prædial conditions.*—In addition to the objections tried under section 83 (1) of the Chota Nagpur Tenancy Act and section 103A of the Bengal Tenancy Act, objections were entertained to the entries regarding prædial conditions, which are locally known as *rakumats* and *begari*, under section 111 (6) of the Chota Nagpur Tenancy Act and section 9A of the repealed Commutation Act. These applications were tried at greater length, and the grounds of decisions were given with more detail. The matters in issue were the number and kinds of *rakumats* payable, and the number of days' compulsory labour (*begari*) and renderable, to the landlord by the raiyats, according to contract or local usage. Nearly every dispute affected the whole body of the raiyats. The disputes regarding the incidence of *rakumats* and *begari* were ordinarily dealt with in two separate proceedings for the whole village; a finding was first come to, as at attestation, as to the rates payable or renderable, and the charges were then commuted to cash payments and amalgamated with the money rent. The procedure is fully discussed in the succeeding chapter. The total number of these objections dealt with was 3,218, of which 652 or 20 per cent. were allowed wholly or in part.

178. *Incidence of objections per thana or outpost.*—The incidence of all kinds of objections per thana or outpost unit is shown in the table given below :—

THANA OR OUTPOST.	Number of objections under section 103A of the Bengal Tenancy Act or section 83(1) of the Chota Nagpur Tenancy Act.	Number of objections under section 9A of the repealed Commutation Act and section 111(6) of the Chota Nagpur Tenancy Act.	Number of all kinds.	Incidence of all kinds per square mile.
Gumla ...	930	404	1,334	6·3
Ghagra ...	616	94	710	3·4
Palkot ...	256	11	267	1·2
Kurdeg ...	173	32	205	·6
Kolebira ...	481	40	521	1·3
Basia ...	1,906	186	2,092	7·0
Kochedega ...	529	71	600	1·1
Sisai ...	1,942	181	2,123	7·5
Chainpur ...	903	210	1,113	2·7
Bishunpur ...	270	52	322	1·3
Bano ...	418	14	432	2·0
Raidih ...	492	64	556	2·8
Ranchi ...	5,412	273	5,685	12·6
Angara ...	786	65	851	4·9
Ormanjhi ...	436	30	466	5·2
Silli ...	1,157	38	1,195	9·6
Mandar ...	5,250	237	5,487	27·4
Burmu ...	494	28	522	2·9
Lohardaga ...	4,058	363	4,421	9·2
Kuru ...	1,207	89	1,296	13·2
Lapung ...	584	77	661	5·6
Bero ...	1,890	120	2,010	13·2
Khunti ...	3,631	215	3,846	11·3
Torpa ...	335	82	417	1·3
Karra ...	1,744	149	1,893	9·4
Sonahatu ...	147	15	162	1·1
Tamar ...	2,001	70	2,071	4·3
Bundu ...	1,705	58	1,763	17·0
Total ...	39,753	3,218	42,971	6·1

The figure given in the column for incidence per square mile is a correct index of the amount of agrarian discontent prevailing in the area. Agrarian disputes were undoubtedly most rife in Mandar, where the conditions of affairs in portions of the area may be justly described as chaotic. In the less intensively cultivated areas, disputes were fewest. There is, in these areas, still plenty of land available for reclamation. The population is sparse, and it is the interest of the landlords to treat their raiyats with consideration, and to induce others to settle and reclaim the jungle and waste. Disputes were least numerous, therefore, in Kurdeg, Palkot, Kolebira, Kochedega, Torpa, and Sonahatu, and most numerous in Mandar, Bero, Bundu, Kuru, and Ranchi. There is really little analogy between Ranchi and the Behar districts in the matter of disputes. In Behar, the cultivation is intense, and every plot of ground, however small, is very valuable. Even in the most populous parts of Ranchi district, the struggle for land is not nearly so great, and an incidence of 27 objections per square mile in thana Mandar indicates considerably more strained relations between landlords and tenants than would be indicated by double the number of objections per square mile, in a district such as Darbhanga.

OFFICE WORK.

179. As soon as all objections are disposed of, or, if there are no objections, when the time allowed for filing them has expired, the records are sent to head-quarters to be prepared for final publication. They are carefully examined in detail by a selected staff, under the supervision of several experienced Assistant Settlement Officers, and then copied for final publication. The detailed method followed was the same as is followed in the Behar settlement, which has been already described in several of the settlement reports of North Behar.

The programme was generally completed before the end of the settlement year (30th September), but on some occasions it was prolonged into November or early in December. During the last two seasons, four Assistant Settlement Officers were employed for four or five months in supervising the check (*janchi*) of the records.

180. Copying.—A large amount of copying was done for private parties. The total number of applications dealt with in the Survey and Settlement offices exceeded 30,000. The total receipts of the copying department of the Settlement office alone amounted to nearly Rs. 40,000, including Rs. 6,000 for certification fees.

181. Rates for copying records.—The rates charged for copying finally published records were—

Khatians, 6 annas per every 100 plots or less, *plus* one anna for every four *khatian* forms.

Khewats, three annas for every five entries. *plus* one anna per form.

Khatian, Part II, three annas for every 300 words or less, *plus* one anna per form.

The copyists received a two-thirds share of the receipts for copying work, exclusive of costs of forms, certification fees, and searching fees. Their average earnings per month were Rs. 22 in the case of English copyists, and Rs. 14 in the case of vernacular copyists.

182. Processes issued.—The number of processes issued, exclusive of those issued from the various attestation and khanapuri camps, exceeded 35,000 during the whole period.

183. Records made over to the Collector.—The records made over to the Collector at the conclusion of the operations include the following :—

- (a) The volume containing the record-of-rights, *i.e.*, the *khawat* and the *khatians*, the *terij* with its *goshwara* or abstract, record of jungle and other rights (*khatian*, Part II), certificate of final publication, commutation form 1, and a copy of the cadastral map of the village. These documents are bound together in one volume.
- (b) The records of suits and applications, and boundary disputes.
- (c) The statistical registers—one for each thana or outpost—, the cultivation statistics (*milan khasra*), crop statement (*jinswar*), agricultural stock list, and the abstract of the record-of-rights for each village (*goshwara*).
- (d) The village notes bound in volumes for each thana or outpost.
- (e) Recovery registers including demand forms, general cash-book, certificate cases, etc.

The *khasras* are not made over.

184. Defects.—The most serious difficulty experienced in the working of the head-quarters' offices was the impossibility of obtaining a staff of competent clerks. Increases in salary seem to have had little or no effect in attracting the right class of ministerial officers. The reasons no doubt are that the duties are more onerous than those performed by clerks in the district offices, while the appointments are temporary, and the posts are not pensionable. The improvement of the prospects of the head-quarters staff is, therefore, an urgent necessity. If a dozen pensionable posts were created for the principal ministerial duties of the Survey and Settlement offices of this division, the Settlement Officer would have a nucleus of reliable clerks. The extra cost would be insignificant, and it could be realized as part of the costs of the operations. There is now little doubt that settlement operations will continue to be an essential branch of the administration. At the conclusion of the operations in one district or division, the clerks, whose posts are pensionable, could be transferred to another. For some of them, the District Officers would be able to make provision, if necessary, as vacancies occur. A pension scheme for all the employes of the department is not feasible; but it seems to be necessary to create permanent pensionable posts for a few of the chief appointments. At present, for instance, we are obliged to entrust the keeping of accounts, aggregating lakhs of rupees, to temporary clerks, who have no incentive to responsibility, and this is both inexpedient and unwise.

FINAL PUBLICATION.

185. *General.*—The final publication of the records was carried out by Kanungos, who read out the entries to the assembled raiyats and landlords or their agents in the village itself. The final publication begins in November following the completion of the office work, and is ordinarily concluded by the first week of April. No difficulty was experienced in finishing the programme timely.

186. *Defects of the present system.*—The system followed at present is, in my opinion, open to serious objection. It may be granted at once that it is preferable to publish the records in the villages themselves; but, having regard to the simplicity of the work and the necessity of keeping down costs, it is impracticable to employ a highly paid agency for this purpose. The alternative is to employ a cheap agency. The final publication was, as a matter of fact, done by Kanungos on a consolidated pay of Rs. 25 per month. They published the records often at enormous distances from head-quarters, where no supervision by any competent agency was possible. There is, therefore, no guarantee that the records were read out or explained intelligently to the more ignorant raiyats and landlords; and there is ample evidence to show that most Kanungos levy a toll from persons who desire to obtain information on any points from them. The consequence is that the more helpless classes of the community are sometimes in practice deprived of the right of bringing suits, which the law specifically confers, to contest the correctness of entries in the record or omissions therefrom. This aspect of the question is more important in Chota Nagpur than in the rest of Bengal for two reasons. The landlords and raiyats are less intelligent and more languid in the pursuit of their rights. The entries regarding rents are final against the landlord, unless he contests their accuracy under section 87 within three months of final publication. The entries in the finally published records regarding *khunkatti* rights, the commutation of prædial conditions, landlords' privileged lands, and the rights and duties of village headmen are conclusive, subject to the right of aggrieved parties to bring a suit in the Settlement Courts to contest their accuracy within three months of final publication. In such circumstances, it is obviously essential that the parties interested should know the exact nature of the entries made. If they do not,—and under the present system it is safe to conclude that this is sometimes the case—they are deprived for ever of any legal remedy. The system of giving finality to the settlement records in certain cases has conferred enormous benefits on all classes of the backward communities of Chota Nagpur; it is necessary, however, to safeguard it against possible abuses. The provisions of section 129 of the Act provide that a copy of the entries regarding *khunkatti* rights, and the rights and duties of headmen shall be served on the persons interested, so far as they can be ascertained, at the time of the final publication of the records; but there are no such provisions regarding the other entries above referred to. The cost of preparing copies of the entries regarding rent and prædial conditions at this stage would be, in my opinion, quite prohibitive; and the only feasible remedy appears to be to amend the rules regarding final publication. The alternative system, which I suggest, is that the record should be published under the immediate supervision of an Assistant Settlement Officer assisted by a staff of four or five muharrirs or more to read out the records at convenient centres embracing an area of about 25 or 30 square miles. The villagers would, no doubt, be obliged to travel three or four miles to hear the records read out. But the work could be done rapidly and inexpensively under this system, and there would be a reasonable guarantee that the records were finally published in an intelligent manner, and with a comparative freedom from the malpractices, which prevail under the existing system.

CHAPTER V.

RENT AND PRÆDIAL CONDITIONS, RAIYATI TENANCIES AND LAND MEASURES.

187. THE rent of an ordinary raiyati tenancy was found to consist of cash payments and customary prædial conditions, locally known as *rakumats* and *begari*. It is assessed on local units of measure known as *pawas*, *annas*, *rupees*, and *kats*, in different parts of the district. The areas of these units, though fairly uniform for the village, vary considerably from village to village and thana to thana. An ordinary tenancy, which is known throughout the greater part of the district as a *chattisa* holding, consists of a certain area of *don* or low-land, to which is attached an additional area of *tanr* or upland, known as complementary or *lagan tanr*. The cash rent is payable for the *don* lands, and the prædial conditions for the *tanr*. The amount of *tanr* or upland, which is complementary to a unit of area, varies considerably even in the same village, and there is usually no relation whatsoever between the amount of *tanr* attached to tenancies situated in parts of the district remote from each other.

In the case of large estates there is very often a recognized pargana rate, so many rupees per *pawa* or per *anna*, and also a recognized scale of *rakumats*. The latter consist of certain payments in kind and *abwabs* or cesses, which are renderable to the landlord by local custom or usage. But, in the smaller estates, the rate of rent and *rakumats* varies enormously, its incidence depending for the most part on the relative strength of the parties rather than on considerations of equity or the value of the tenancies. The same is true of *begari* or the compulsory labour which was renderable by raiyats to their landlords for the cultivation of their *manjhihas* lands and as personal services.

The history of rent and prædial conditions in the district is the history of all agrarian discontent. The aboriginal tribes entered the country several centuries ago, and began to clear the lands. They paid no rent to anybody. After a while, Chiefs arose, who established a sort of overlordship in the country. They collected tribute and exacted some slight personal services. When they became Hinduized and intermarried with Hindus, they conceived the idea of establishing their supremacy on a firmer basis, and for this purpose it was necessary to introduce foreigners into the country. At first, the immigration was feeble; but in the beginning of the first quarter of the nineteenth century it assumed considerable dimensions. The Maharaja of Chota Nagpur and other Chiefs made considerable grants to the Hindu immigrants, and, as they increased in numbers, the pressure on the aboriginal population increased. The Hindus were not cultivators themselves by profession, and had, therefore, to sustain life in a country where there are still hardly any industries or professions other than agricultural, by imposing additional charges on the cultivators. The charges took the form of rent, *rakumats*, and personal services. As the cultivated area expanded, the charges were in many cases still light, and were submitted to by the aborigines. In other parts of the country, where the pressure of the new comers was greater or where the aborigines exhibited an obstinate adherence to their ancient rights as clearers of the soil, the agrarian struggle began to take definite shape. On the one hand, the Chiefs or their grantees, who established themselves as zamindars in the country, sought to increase the charges on the land, and the aborigines refused to comply with these demands. There were no Courts nearer than Sherghatti or Chatra till the South-West Frontier Agency was established in 1824. There was, therefore, really no agency for the regulation of the disputes. The great Kol rebellion of 1832 was an attempt on the part of the aborigines to get rid of the hordes of middlemen, who had settled in the country and who had begun to take possession of the most valuable of the cultivated lands. It was suppressed by Government, and for a time there was a reaction in favour of the zamindars. Courts were indeed established; but the officers did not always understand local customs, nor were the aborigines in those days fit to compete on anything like even terms with their Hindu antagonists in the Courts of law. The consequence was that in the main the disputes about rent charges were not settled through their agency, but in the villages themselves, and the criterion was the relative

strength of the parties and their ability to enforce or resist demands. This state of affairs existed down to quite recent times. Suits regarding rent and prædial conditions have been numerous, no doubt, in the aggregate; but disputes were in the main always settled as indicated above, and this fact accounts for the extraordinary divergence between the incidents of tenancies in different parts of the country.

The Hindus as a race never conquered the land. Their introduction was at first a peaceful penetration, but it gradually involved a continually increasing burden on the original settlers.

Closely connected with the disputes about rent charges and prædial conditions is the question of possession of fields. The refusal of the aborigines in parts of the country to comply with the exorbitant demands of the zamindars from the beginning of the second quarter of the nineteenth century led to reprisals and counter-reprisals. When the raiyats refused to pay increased demands, the zamindars began to dispossess them by force and take their lands into their *khas* cultivation, or to sublet them to Hindus at enhanced rates. The aborigines, being on a much lower plane of civilization and lacking the power to combine, lost heavily at first. The balance was to some extent redressed by the advent of the European Christian missionaries, who took the side of the raiyats, and the agrarian struggle for the last 30 years has been a tug-of-war with the landlords and the Hindu raiyats, who are locally known as *Sadans*, on one side, and the aborigines supported by the missionaries on the other. The Courts were until recently usually too far removed from the scene of conflict, and they were in reality never able to take an effective part, or to mitigate and control the conflict.

188. *Mundari khuntkatti tenancies.*—The ancient system of land tenure still survives in scattered blocks in the Munda country. The Munda system of land tenure has been fully described in a valuable note by Father Hoffman, S.J., and Mr. Lister, C.S., which will be found in Appendix I to my edition of the Chota Nagpur Tenancy Act. Father Hoffman is a missionary, who has spent 10 or 12 years in the Munda country and has made a special study of the Mundari language and Mundari social customs and land tenures. Mr. Lister was the Settlement Officer, who initiated the settlement operations in the district, and devoted four years of assiduous and untiring labour to the study of the agrarian question, especially in the Munda tract. For a full and complete description of the Munda land tenures, reference must be made to the note. It will be sufficient to give here a brief description of a purely Mundari *khuntkatti* village. The *khuntkattidars* are the descendants in the male line of the original founders of the village, and a group of these *khuntkattidars* are the owners of all the land included within its boundaries. The annual rent payable was originally made up of the subscriptions (*chandas*) of the *khuntkattidars*; but the subscriptions of many of them have been reduced, and the deficits have been made good from the rents paid by the raiyats, who hold raiyati tenancies under the joint brotherhood. There is a headman in each village called the Munda, who collects the *chandas* and pays the rent to the superior landlord, the Manki, or his successor in interest. The Manki is the head of a *patti*, which is constituted usually of 10 or 12 villages. He realizes the rents from the Mundas, and pays them to the superior landlord. The Mundas and the Mankis are not landlords. The Munda is merely a village official appointed by the community for the performance of certain duties. He is a *khuntkattidar* himself, and one of the co-owners of the village property. As a village official only is he the head of the community. The Manki is similarly the head of a confederation of villages. The rents payable by the co-owners of the intact Mundari *khuntkatti* villages really represent the small tribute which the founders or their descendants agreed to pay as a subsidy for the support of their feudal chiefs. They are, therefore, generally insignificant quit-rents, and average only Rs. 19.4 per village. The system, no doubt, existed throughout the whole Munda country, but it has been broken down by processes described below throughout the greater part of the area.

189. *The incidence of rent in the Mundari khuntkatti area.*—According to the *pattas* which were granted to the Mankis after the rebellion of 1832, the villages comprising a *patti*, i.e., the jurisdiction of a Manki, were responsible for the payment of a certain fixed yearly sum as rent to the superior landlord.

The amount seems to have been distributed in a somewhat arbitrary manner among the villages, and was found to vary enormously. The village rent is contributed by the *khunkattidars*, who give often only a few annas each and the raiyats. The contributions of the *khunkattidars* are also not paid according to any system of rates. The headman or headmen frequently contribute nothing. In some villages it was found customary to make a present to the Manki once a year, consisting of a goat or fighting cock, and a rupee or a small quantity of rice. These latter charges are known as *rakumats*. In the broken *khunkatti* villages, where the rents are paid by the *khunkatti* tenants to the landlord, the incidence of rent tends to approximate to the rent prevailing in ordinary zamindari villages, and the *rakumats* and *abwabs* of all kinds were found to be numerous and diverse. The table given below shows the number of intact Mundari *khunkatti* villages still in existence, with details as to the extent of cultivation and the incidence of rent:—

NAME OF THANA OR OUTPOST.	Number of villages.	AREA IN ACRES.		Number of Mundari <i>khunkattidars</i> .	Parjas (RAIYATS) UNDER THE MUNDARI <i>khunkattidars</i>		Rent paid by the Munda to the superior tenure-holder.
		Cultivated.	Uncultivated.		Number.	Rent paid by them to the Mundas.	
						Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Bundu ...	9	1,610	3,059	76	173	214 12 9	251 10 6
Tamar ...	■	14,543	27,054	615	962	702 4 9	747 13 0
Khunti ...	87	27,984	17,519	1,909	1,170	813 2 1	2,007 6 9
Bano ...	1	199	286	1	19	5 5 0	6 1 6
Total ...	156	44,336 = 69 sq. miles.	47,638 = 75 sq. miles.	2,601	2,327	1,735 8 7	3,012 15 9

There are, therefore, 156 intact villages with a total area of 144 square miles. This is all that remains of the ancient tenure of the district. The average total rent, including commuted value of prædial conditions, paid by a village is Rs. 19·4 only; but the incidence varies from Rs. 61 to Rs. 1·3 according to the area and other considerations. The average incidence of rent per cultivated acre is only one anna. The figures showing the subscriptions (*chandas*) paid by the *khunkattidars* are not available for the whole area; but the average amount paid by each of the *khunkattidars* of thana Khunti is only 14 annas per head. The excess over the actual rent payable to the superior landlords collected by the Mundas from the *khunkattidars* and raiyats amounts to Rs. 463, or an average of Rs. 5 per village. This small amount is usually spent on feeding and entertaining the "raja's" tahsildars and peons, when they come to the village, according to the ancient custom of the country.

190. *Titles of the superior tenure-holder.*—The table given below shows the title of the superior tenure-holders to whom the rents of the villages are paid by the Munda:—

NAME OF THANA OR OUTPOST.	Number of villages the rents of which are paid to Mankis.	Number of villages the rents of which are paid to <i>Korposhdars</i> .	Number of villages the rents of which are paid to <i>jagirdars</i> .	Number of villages the rents of which are paid to other tenure-holders.	Total.
Bundu ...	1	2	1	5	9
Tamar ...	2	2	12	43	59
Khunti ...	56	16	3	12	87
Bano ...	...	...	1	...	1
Total ..	59	20	17	60	156

Only those Mankis are classed as the rent-receivers, who are in direct receipt of the rents, or who have sub-let their tenures under temporary leases,

Where the right of the Mankis has been permanently alienated or sold by auction, the rent-receiver is classed as an ordinary tenure-holder. It will thus be seen that the Manki *parha* system is almost extinct save in Khunti thana, where the majority of the intact villages still pay rent to their titular head.

191. *The causes of the breakdown of the system.*—The causes of the breakdown of the system were two-fold. The first, and this is no doubt the main cause, was the inherent defects of character and weakness of the Mundas themselves, especially when brought into contact with more advanced races. The second was the persistent attempts made by the zamindars and moneyed classes to get possession of the villages, or to reduce the status of the *khunkattidars* to that of mere raiyats. These attempts were successful in many instances owing to the general ignorance of local customary rights in land which prevailed, and the inability of the Mundas to fight out their cases in Court.

The disintegration of the village system was often brought about somewhat as follows:—The headman or Munda borrowed money from a local money-lender, and executed a document in his favour, in which he pledged the whole village as security. The Munda in fact posed as a village landlord, and the money-lender accepted the security, very often, no doubt, with ulterior dishonest intentions. The Munda being improvident and being unable to pay up the debts, the village was sold in auction in the Ranchi Courts, and bought in by the money-lender or one of his friends. From that date, the village was treated as a zamindari one, and the purchaser began to raise the *chandās* or subscriptions paid by the *khunkattidars*, and to treat them as rent. If any of the brethren refused to pay, the new landlord sued for rent in the Ranchi Courts, and usually got a decree. The Courts were ignorant of the Munda system of land tenures. A Munda who collected rents must, they argued, be a landlord, and the claim set up by the recalcitrant *khunkattidars* to hold a large patch of valuable lowland at a few pice rental must be absurd. There are cases on record, in which the Courts have treated individual *khunkattidars* as trespassers, because it was found that they paid no rents, and it was not understood how such tenants could hold lands rent free. These *khunkattidars* were, of course, the descendants of the original reclaimers of the soil, and their ancestors had cultivated the lands before the Hindus entered the country.

192. *Village Sehelda.*—The history of village Sehelda is a typical instance of the manner in which the system broke down. The Munda of the village collected the *chandās* from the brethren, but failed to pay them for some years to the superior landlord. The latter, in consequence, brought a suit against him for arrears of rent. The village was sold in pursuance of the decree obtained in the suit. The *khunkattidars*, co-owners of the village, were not made parties, nor did they take any action to protect their rights, if they really knew what was going on. The auction-purchaser proceeded to treat them all as raiyats and to increase their rents, and, when they refused to submit to this treatment, he sued them in the Revenue Courts and obtained a declaration that they were liable to pay rent to him separately as *raiya*ts.

To officers familiar with the system of Revenue and Rent laws, which prevailed in Bengal, the payment of any dues by a tenant of land connoted rent and the relationship of landlord and tenant, and it was this false analogy with the Bengal system of zamindari, combined with the incapacity of the Mundas themselves, which led to the destruction of the *khunkatti* system in numerous villages in Bundu, Tamar, Sonahatu, and Silli. It is not to be supposed that the system was broken down in every case by the Courts. The decision in cases like the one above referred to was usually sufficient to induce the *khunkattidars* of neighbouring villages to abandon their ancient rights, whenever pressure was duly applied. Nor is it a fact, as is sometimes stated, that the Civil Courts were the instruments which destroyed the system. The Revenue Courts of the district, subordinate to the Deputy Commissioner, were equally, if not more, to blame. The subordinate Judicial Officers of both kinds very rarely displayed any acquaintance with local usages till quite recent years, or, if they possessed the knowledge, they were content merely to record the evidence given by the parties and their witnesses, and to base their decision on it.

They assumed in fact that the antagonists were equally matched, and were well able to look after their own interests in Court. It is now clear that this

was not the case; the Courts consequently committed serious blunders, and frequently gave decisions that were either entirely opposed to, or at variance with, local customs and usages.

193. *Pargana Siri*.—The *khuntkatti* system in the north and west of Khunti thana was, however, destroyed by other agencies, and mainly by Government officials. For instance, pargana Siri was found at the time of the mutiny in 1857 to be an intact *khuntkatti* area. In 1880, Colonel Davies, the Judicial Commissioner, made the following remarks about the nature of the rights, which existed in the pargana :—

“An experience of many years in this district makes me assert with confidence that the whole of pargana Siri, a jungle tract, was formerly held by the simple Munda Kols under *khuntkatti* tenures at fixed rents. That portion of the pargana now held by Government still retains its old status; but in that portion held in jagir by the Lals, many of the old *khuntkattidars* have been gradually deprived of their rights and have become cultivating raiyats.”

The method pursued by the Lals referred to by Colonel Davies was to try and get forcible possession of some lands in each village, and designate them as *manjhihas* (landlords' privileged lands). The existence of such lands was enough to create the presumption that the village was an ordinary zamindari one. At the time of the *bhuinhari* survey, they tried to get some of these lands demarcated and declared *manjhihas*, but the special Commissioner held that the area was *khuntkatti* and that, therefore, no *manjhihas* lands could exist in it. Soon after this, some of the Thakurs and Lals applied for protection under the Encumbered Estates Act, and their estates were taken over for management. The manager of the Encumbered Estates, whether through ignorance of the system of land tenure or through a mistaken zeal for the estates under management, it is difficult to say, proceeded almost at once to destroy the *khuntkatti* status throughout the pargana. The case of village Tilma is typical. The disqualified proprietor, Thakur Jitnath Sahi, filed a list of so-called *manjhihas* lands alleged to be held by him in every village throughout the estate and of the rents payable to him by the headmen. In the case of Tilma the manager accepted this *ex parte* statement as correct, and called upon the headmen to execute bonds agreeing to pay Rs. 260 for the whole village including the rents of the so-called *manjhihas* lands. The Thakur himself asked for permission to be allowed to retain the *manjhihas* lands on payment of rent, and this was agreed to, and the demand from the headmen was reduced in consequence to Rs. 200. The headmen and the *khuntkattidars* do not appear to have been consulted at all. In 1880, the Thakur tried to take possession of the so-called *manjhihas* lands, and the Mundas resisted the encroachment. The dispute came before Captain Grey, in a proceeding under section 538 of the Criminal Procedure Code. The following extract from the judgment is an interesting commentary on the system of management then pursued under the manager of the Encumbered Estates department :—

“I am personally acquainted with Tilma and the villages surrounding it, and last year made an enquiry into the nature of the *khuntkatti* tenure and on the strength of what information I got I cannot understand how first party (Thakur Jitnath Sahi) can be barefaced enough to claim *manjhihas* lands in Tilma. In a *khuntkatti* tenure the superior landlord has nothing whatsoever to do with the cultivator of the soil, and he cannot even allot lands to the different raiyats. The headmen amongst the aboriginals, whose ancestors originally held the village, are jointly liable for a certain fixed sum yearly. This sum is made up by contributions from all the cultivators, but the superior landlord cannot demand one pie from any individual raiyat. He can only sue the headmen. So far, therefore, as right enters into the bargain, I think first party would be out of court. The customs of the district point to the claim being utterly wrong. The rent of the whole village as paid by the headmen to the superior landlord was attached some years ago, and the headmen were called to execute surety bonds for payment of the rent. The total rent was Rs. 260. Two years after the first surety bond was executed, another was executed in which the rent payable was reduced to Rs. 200, the sum of Rs. 60 being withheld apparently on account of *manjhihas* lands. This proceeding seems throughout to be a most obvious attempt at fraud. I read it in the light of my knowledge of *khuntkatti* tenancies in this way. The first party is admittedly in pecuniary difficulties. He required maintenance out of the Rs. 260 per annum due from the village, and by some means a surety bond was put in which reserved Rs. 60 of the rent. That Rs. 60 had, of course, to be accounted for, and it was shown as the proceeds (in money value) of *manjhihas* lands. Such a bond should never have been admitted, for the tahsildar, Mahipat Lal, must have known very well indeed that there was no *manjhihas* land in a

khuntkatti village. The whole proceeding was simply a successful attempt to reserve a portion of the rents of the village for first party's own use. I cannot but think that the whole case points to the trying to get in the thin end of the wedge, which is eventually to drive out the headmen as *khuntkattidars*, to enable the superior landlord to step in and treat the village as an ordinary *ekkadari* tenure."

The manager was not satisfied with this decision, and he brought a Civil suit for a declaration that there were *manjhihas* lands in the village, and, strange to say, obtained a decree. The *khuntkatti* status was thus destroyed, and the local tahsildars of the Encumbered Estates department and the Thakur made further encroachments. At the time of the settlement operations, it was found that the former *khuntkattidars* used to pay rent individually to the manager, and that they had lost their proprietary rights in the village jungle and waste.

194. *Village Tarub*.—An instance of the destruction of the system, without recourse to litigation, is supplied in the case of village Tarub. The manager applied to the Deputy Commissioner to have the village declared non-*khuntkatti*. The latter in his capacity as head of the Encumbered Estates department held a summary enquiry, and declared the village to be non-*khuntkatti*. He allowed the Munda, however, to collect the rents, and pay them to the tahsildar. Later on the manager deposed the Munda, and took khas possession. The *kuntkattidars* were dissatisfied, but they did not object openly, as they regarded the action of the local officials as a Government order, against which it was useless to contend, and to which it was their duty to submit. Mr. Day, an experienced Deputy Collector, who was employed in the settlement operations in this part of the country, remarks on this event:—

"This is the way in which most of the villages of Siri and some of Sonpur and Udai-pur parganas were ruined. The Encumbered Estates and the Court of Wards (for the Jeria estate) did all the mischief."

195. *The Sonpur khuntkattidars*.—Regarding some of the Sonpur villages, Babu Jogendra Nath Pal, another experienced Assistant Settlement Officer, writes:—

"The records of the *bhuinhari* operations show that, although some villages were treated as *bhuinhari* villages, there were others in which the special Commissioners merely measured the *Mundai* and *Pahanai* lands, the question of the *khuntkatti* status of the villagers being left open. During the management of the Encumbered Estates department, the *khuntkatti* status in these villages was completely broken. The *khuntkatti* lands of the original settlers came to be described in the estate papers as *rajhas* (rai-yati). Another source of mischief was the settlement of the so-called *manjhihas* lands with the disqualified proprietor. The *bhuinhari* records showed that there were few demarcated *manjhihas* lands in the villages. The disqualified proprietor, when making over charge to the department, showed some *manjhihas* lands in almost every village, largely in excess of those which he really possessed, apparently with a view to create evidence of their existence. He subsequently took settlement of these lands himself, and then proceeded to take possession on the strength of the evidence so created, with the assistance of the estate tahsildars, who posed amongst the Mundas as Government officials (*sarkari daris*). The result is that the landlord is now possessed of *manjhihas* or rather khas lands in almost every village."

The disqualified proprietor above referred to was Thakur Fanmutukh Nath Sahi, a maintenance holder under the Thakur of Jeria. The *Khuntkatti* status in the Jeria estate was broken when Colonel Evans Gordon was Deputy Commissioner. The example of the Encumbered Estates management must have been a powerful incentive to other landlords, and they, no doubt, followed the example. By the time the settlement operations commenced, the extent of the area, in which the pure Mundari *khuntkatti* system existed, had enormously contracted.

196. *Broken khuntkatti villages*.—The number of villages in which the system lingered in a state of greater or less decay was, however, found to be considerable, and all tenancies, which came within the definition of Mundari *khuntkattidar* contained in the Tenancy Act, were recorded as such in these villages. *Kuntkatti* villages in the various stages of decay are classed by Mr. Lister as follows:—

- (1) villages in which the Munda has appropriated the rent of the *parjas* ;

- (2) villages in which he has obtained the control of the jungle, with the result that the other members cannot extend their cultivation ;
- (3) villages in which he has enhanced the *chandas* paid by the other members ; and
- (4) villages in which he has reduced the other members, with the exception of near relatives (*khorphoshdars*) and the Pahans to the position of ordinary raiyats.

197. *Mr. Lister's description of the causes of the breakdown of the system in South Tamar and Khunti.*—Mr. Lister gave in 1903 the following account of the breakdown of the system in parts of Khunti and South Tamar :—

“The *khuntkatti* villages have usually broken down as a result of political agitation or from the greed of the Munda. The former has now ceased, but in the years 1888-92, it was very active. The ‘sardars’ had, with Christianity, imbibed those ideas of peasant proprietorship which are prevalent in some of the German States, and refused to acknowledge any obligations to any landlord below the State. They induced a large number of *khuntkatti* villages to withhold the extremely low rents which were due to the Mankis or other landlords who in consequence sued for rent, and obtained decrees against the Mundas. The Ranchi Courts, through ignorance of the local land system, believed that the Munda of a village was a 16-anna tenure-holder of the village, and not, what he really is, merely the mouth-piece of his equals the *khuntkattidars*. Consequently, when the decrees came to be executed, the Courts put up for sale not the Munda's share in the village but the entire village; and the purchasers were given possession of the whole village. The final step was to sue the *khuntkattidars* individually for rent as though they were ordinary raiyats; the Courts were actuated by the same ignorance in disregarding the plea of the defendants that they were owners of the village and not raiyats.

Ordinarily, however, it was the greed of the Mundas that destroyed the *khuntkatti* system. Leases of forests, the sale of *mokarari* leases or the rents paid by the *parjas* were the usual sources of temptation. The Munda would gain over the more astute of the *khuntkattidars*, and, by sharing the spoil with them, induce them to aid him in robbing the weaker or more ignorant. Thus in Rabo the guardian of the Munda, who is a minor, last year sold a portion of the jungle for Rs. 150. The sale was concluded by him far away from the village, and without the knowledge of most of the *khuntkattidars*. It is of course not binding on them; but when one of them complained at the Tamar thana, he was told that he could do nothing, as the Munda was the owner of the village. In the village of Badani, a similar fraud took place regarding the sale of the timber. The Mundas of these two villages have, however, not yet proceeded to claim to be ‘zamindars,’ but admit that the other *khuntkattidars* are co-owners of the village. In plains villages, such as Rogodih, the profit which tempted the Mundas was the sale of surplus lands to immigrant Mundas for the foundation of *shikmi* (or *mokarari*) tolas. In other villages, the rents paid by the raiyats constituted the temptation. In fact, it would seem that the Mundas are so faithless that, under present conditions, nothing but poverty can preserve their system. Law is expensive; the Courts are remote and often ignorant of the peculiar Mundari customs; the right of appeal is unrestricted and thoroughly understood; and his aggression provides the aggressor with funds for litigation. So at Rabo the aggressor has Rs. 150, and the aggrieved have not as many pice. Ultimately, therefore, it is the remoteness and unsuitability of the Courts which must be held responsible for the destruction of the *khuntkatti* system in all except the most rugged and barren villages. In the neighbourhood of Tamar, however, a further factor is found in the constant aggression of the ‘Rajas’ of Tamar, who, for three generations, have taken advantage of accidents such as the minority of a Manki or Munda, or even employed downright force in breaking down the rights of the Mundaris.”

198. *Total area of Mundari khuntkatti tenancies.*—The table given below shows the total area of Mundari *khuntkatti* tenancies and their distribution :—

Kind of tenancy.	AREA IN SQUARE MILLS.		Total.
	Culti- vated.	Unculti- vated.	
Intact Mundari <i>khuntkatti</i> ...	69	75	144
Broken Mundari <i>khuntkatti</i>	119	11	130
Total ...	188	86	274

The percentage of the cultivated lands of the district occupied by Mundari *khuntkattidars* is 5 per cent. only.

199. *The incidence of rent in zamindari villages.*—As indicated above, the rates of rent payable in ordinary villages throughout the district vary enormously. To determine the rate per acre in any village, it would be necessary to examine the village records and distribute somewhat arbitrarily the total rental of each tenancy, including the commuted values of the prædial conditions, against the lowlands and the uplands separately. The incidence of rent on the total cultivated area per thana unit will be found in the statistical statements published in the Appendices. Lands surveyed under the Chota Nagpur Tenures Act are held either rent-free, or at small quit-rents fixed in perpetuity.

PRÆDIAL CONDITIONS.

200. Prædial conditions are now defined to mean “conditions or services appurtenant to the occupation of land, other than the rent, and include *rakumats* payable by tenants to landlords, and every *mahtut*, *mangan* and *madad* and every other similar demand, however denominated and whether regularly recurrent or intermittent.”

The criterion of liability to these charges is simply contract when the tenancy commenced, or, in the absence of any contract, local custom and usage (section 102). The charges, whether payable or leviable from tenure-holders or raiyats, have now been commuted by the Settlement department to cash payments throughout the district under the procedure contained in Chapter XIII of the Tenancy Act, and the record and commutation are final and conclusive. Prædial conditions are locally known as *rakumats* and *begari*. The former consist of various payments in kind and miscellaneous dues or *abwabs*. The latter consist of a number of days' labour given by the raiyats free of charge to the landlord, either for the cultivation of his khas lands or as personal service. It has been sometimes contended that *rakumats*, which are *abwabs*, are not leviable in Chota Nagpur, in as much as zamindars were enjoined by section 54 of Regulation VIII of 1793 to consolidate all such charges and amalgamate them with the rent before a fixed date, and, by section 55 of the same Regulation, they were forbidden to impose any new *abwabs* or *mahtuts* on any pretence whatsoever. It appears to be clear, however, that it was the intention of the Legislature to validate all *abwabs* which are payable by custom or usage, or by contract when the tenancy commenced, and such *abwabs* are, therefore, legally leviable. The same argument applies in the case of *begari*. But, apart from this, by section 2 of Regulation IV of 1794, “that part of zilla Ramgarh, which was included in the Soubah of Bihar,” was specially exempted from the operation of the rules contained in section 54 of Regulation VIII of 1793, that is, the zamindars within this tract were not compelled to consolidate these charges, but they were prohibited from imposing any new ones after that date. The latter injunction appears to have been disregarded by the zamindars of Ranchi at all events, and the Legislature has been obliged to declare the validity of all such *abwabs* and other dues as are consecrated by custom. The future imposition of all prædial conditions on any new tenancies has, however, been now prohibited in stringent terms, and, as all existing dues have been commuted, it may be hoped that they have disappeared for ever. There appears to be no doubt that the district of Ranchi was at the time of the Regulations above referred to included in the Soubah of Bihar. In proof of this, I may note the following quotation from the supplement to the Historical and Comparative Analysis of the finances of Bengal, which was written in 1787 :—

“In addition to both these grand divisions of territory, which excludes from the proper area of the three southerly Sircars, a straggling hilly country of little worth of 8,000 square miles, a third and elevated adjoining region, still further to the south, forms a part of Soubah Bihar, no less extensive than either of the former two, as containing nearly 18,000 square miles, though proportionally of very inconsiderable value. This highland district, including the modern sub-divisions of Palamau, Ramgarh and Chutea Nagpur.....has since the age of Ptolemy been geographically termed the three Bellads or Cantons.”

Chutea Nagpur was, of course, the old name of Ranchi district.

According to the Regulations, the proper criterion of liability was evidently whether the dues were levied in 1793 or not. If they had been imposed subsequent to that date, they were invalid. Unfortunately, the landlords and raiyats knew nothing whatsoever about the Regulations, and even the Courts cannot be acquitted of ignorance of the law. The *rakumats* and *begari* leviable in 1793 were undoubtedly insignificant. *Rakumats* consisting of produce were a convenient form of payment in those days, and *begari* consisting of a few days' service was a convenient method of discharging a portion of the rent liability. But the system began to be abused as the numbers of the Hindu jagirdars and their dependants began to increase. The raiyats submitted to the increased demands at first, but with some demur. About the year 1827, the attention of the British officers appears to have been drawn to the ever increasing numbers of *abwabs*, which the jagirdars were collecting from their raiyats, and the Magistrate of Ramgarh issued a summary order enjoining their total abolition. Dr. Davidson, Principal Assistant to the Governor-General's Agent for Lohardaga, in referring to this event in 1839, writes as follows :—

"These *abwabs* were a fruitful source of oppression to the Kols, but fortunately they have been abolished for the last ten or twelve years by an order of the Magistrate of Ramgarh. The Raja complains greatly of the hardship of this order, and, at my first coming here I made some enquiry on the subject, but found the demands so enormous that to enforce them would ruin the whole country. They are well got rid of, and ought never to be revived in any shape."

Dr. Davidson was mistaken. There is now, no doubt, that the zamindars took little notice of the Magistrate's injunction, and that they continued to realize these dues and to add to their number. With the spread of Christianity and the increasing tension between landlords and raiyats, the former were sometimes unable to realize the *abwabs* in the villages, and they were consequently obliged to sue for their realization in the Courts. The view taken by the latter appears to have been that the dues were not legally realizable, as there was no provision in Act X of 1859, which was then the Rent law according to the provisions of which such disputes were decided, enabling a landlord to sue for them. In 1868 the landlords suffered a serious reverse, when the High Court decided (*Urjain Sahi v. Anand Singh*, W. R., 10, p. 257) that no cesses could be legally leviable in Chota Nagpur, as Act X of 1859 was in force in the district. As explained in Chapter III, it was extremely doubtful whether Act X was ever in force in this district, and, in any case, as the district had been exempted from the provisions of the Regulation, which enjoined the commutation of *abwabs* and *mahtuts* to cash payments, the decision was clearly in some respects inequitable to the landlords. The provisions of Act X forbidding the realization of these dues were evidently based on the orders contained in Regulation VIII of 1793, which, it was presumed, had been carried out by the landlords, but which, of course, had never been enforced in Ranchi or Palamau. Mr. Oliphant, the Deputy Commissioner of Lohardaga, noted on these points as follows in 1875 :—

"A positive injustice is being perpetrated towards the landlords through the action of the Courts in refusing to allow *abwabs* on the ground that their imposition is prohibited by Regulations VIII of 1793, V of 1812, and Act X of 1859 (s. 10), none of these Acts being applicable

It is sufficient to remark now that seeing that this part of the country (Lohardaga) was specially exempted by Regulation IV of 1794 from the operation of section 54 of Regulation VIII of 1793, it is obviously improper to force on the country a law, which prohibits the levy of all cesses, without affording the zamindars an opportunity in the first instance of commuting these dues to rent."

Notwithstanding the decisions, it is quite certain that most of the landlords continued to realize or levy the dues. They undoubtedly had a grievance in that all such dues were being disallowed by the Courts; but the raiyats had also a grievance, if they knew it, in that the landlords were, in fact, realizing numerous dues of diverse character and recent origin, the imposition of which had been prohibited in 1793.

When Act I of 1879 was enacted, provisions were made for the commutation of prædial conditions, and their legality was again recognized; but the

determination of the amount of money fairly payable in lieu of the conditions was left entirely to the unfettered discretion of the Court. When the Chota Nagpur Commutation Act was enacted in 1897, the law was again modified. The Revenue Officer was enjoined to commute the services according to equity; but, in calculating the amount, he was obliged to have regard to the conditions or services to which the tenant was liable according to ancient custom. It is not very clear what the intention of the Legislature was. There were no provisions in the Tenancy Law regarding the manner in which the dues should be calculated in ordinary suits for arrears of rent; and, as a matter of fact, with hardly any exceptions, the Courts paid no regard to the criterion of ancient custom, and generally gave decrees for all dues which appeared to have been levied at or about the time of the suit, without regard to their antiquity or their reasonableness.

The isolated cases of commutation dealt with under the Commutation Act were dealt with on similar lines. From the commencement of the settlement operations, a more strict adherence to the law was maintained. Proof of custom was invariably required in the Settlement Courts. Since the present Tenancy Act came into force, the law has been slightly altered in favour of the landlords, and the criterion of liability is now local custom or usage, or contract. The incidence of prædial conditions was found to be rarely, if ever, regulated by contract; so the criterion applied was local usage or custom, and, as local usage does not require the same proof of antiquity as custom, the landlords were able to discharge the burden of proof with greater facility than before. It has been sometimes said that the landlords of the district have suffered considerable diminution of income by the enforced commutation of these dues. No doubt, this is true in some cases; but the decrease is entirely due to the fact that illegal and unauthorized dues, which were not sanctioned by custom, have been disallowed. When the history of the question is considered, and especially the fact that the Regulation of 1793 contains a stringent prohibition against the imposition of all fresh cesses, which did not then exist, and the additional fact that the vast majority of the demands made by the landlords were of comparatively recent origin, it seems that the landlords of the district have been treated with great liberality. No doubt the general conditions are somewhat different in Chota Nagpur to those which prevail in the rest of Bengal; but it must be considered that the realization of arbitrary cesses was entirely opposed to the revenue policy of the Government in other parts of the province, and, looking back at the history of agrarian troubles in Ranchi for the last 50 years, it now seems clear that the special exception made in the case of Chota Nagpur was a mistake. There has been no more fruitful cause of agrarian discontent than the exaction of these arbitrary cesses and compulsory labour; and had the Government pursued the same policy here as in the rest of Bengal, it is certain that much hardship, expense, and bloodshed would have been avoided.

201. *Incidence of prædial conditions.*—The incidence of prædial conditions was found to vary in much the same way as the money rent, and for the same reasons. They were found to be leviable on *Chattisa* holdings only, that is, on holdings consisting of a portion of low rice land (*don*) and some complementary highland (*tanr*). They were not found to be leviable by custom on holdings which consist of *don* or *tanr* only. The cash rent appears to have been paid for the *don* lands, and the *rakumats* and *begari* were payable or renderable for the complementary *tanr*.

202. *Rakumats.*—*Rakumats* consisted of various payments in kind and miscellaneous dues or *abwabs*. Their incidence varied from village to village. They were found to be payable per unit of land, or per tenancy, and were sometimes leviable on the whole village. The most common kind of *rakumats* payable in kind were *urid*, *sarguja*, *kapas*, *gundli*, *dhan*, straw and *kher*. They were in reality a kind of produce-rent consisting of a fixed quota of the produce of the upland included in each tenancy; but, as they were by local custom regarded as prædial conditions, they were commuted as such. The other class of *rakumats* consisted of miscellaneous and sometimes irregular dues, which may be classed as *abwabs*. The most common items in Ranchi district were *dasai*, *batta*, *bhatta*, *rasid likhai*, *dak mushara*, *neg*, *bardoch*, *sarai chaul*

or *nawa khani*, *danr pancha*, rafters, bamboos and *ghi*. A detailed description of the various kinds is given below:—

Dasai.—Is the payment or contribution made to the landlord by his raiyats and under-tenure-holders at the time of the *Dashara* festival. Sometimes the contribution took the form of goats or buffaloes for sacrifice; but payments in cash were usually made, which were known as *dasainbehri* or *dasain salami*.

Batta.—Is merely an allowance for the exchange of sicca rupees into Company's rupees. Under the provisions of Act XIII of 1836, sicca rupees ceased to be legal tender, but were receivable at the treasuries subject to a charge of one per cent. for recoinage. The value of the sicca rupees was slightly higher than the value of the present coin; and the impost was consequently necessary to cover loss in exchange. The origin of the impost was, however, apparently lost sight of, and it was found to have been frequently imposed on tenancies which were created subsequent to 1836.

Bhatta.—Is a charge to meet the expenses of the landlord and his servants, whenever they visited a village to collect rents, etc.

Rasid likhai.—Is the charge which was usually made for giving rent receipts. It amounted to one or two annas per tenancy, but it is now an illegal levy, as all landlords are bound to give receipts free of charge, and its value could not, therefore, be allowed in commutation proceedings.

Dak mushara.—Or *dâk* cess is a cess which was originally levied by landlords to meet the expenses of the Government *dâk* cess, which was imposed on zamindars for the conveyance of the *dâk* or post. *Dâk* cess has now, however, been abolished by Act IV of 1907 and the charge is, therefore, no longer leviable. Some landlords continue to levy it; but it is not part of the rent, as it is not paid for the use and occupation of land; and it cannot, therefore, be recovered under the provisions of the Tenancy Act, unless the tenant has specially contracted to pay it as part of the rent.

Neg.—*Neg* means the same as *dasturi*. It is a customary payment which was made on certain occasions, such as marriage. *Neg* is a general term, e.g., *rasid likhai* is the *neg* of the person who writes out a rent receipt.

Nawakhani or Sarai chaul.—*Nawa khani* is a contribution of rice made by the raiyats on an auspicious day, when the winter rice has been harvested.

Danr pancha.—Is a contribution which used to be made by the raiyats in villages where there is a large amount of *tanr*, and no attempt had been made to find out whether the raiyats cultivated more than they were entitled to.

Nimako dhan.—Is *dhan* which used to be taken by the zamindar in lieu of salt. In former times, salt used to be imported by the landlords, and a seer was generally given to the raiyats in exchange for a *kat* (a maund) of *dhan*. The import was frequently continued, after the custom fell into disuse. A seer of salt is now worth one anna, and a *kat* of *dhan* is worth one rupee at least.

Bhandari dhan, Karai dhan.—Is the contribution of *dhan* which used to be made by the raiyats for the support of the village *bhandari* or landlord's local agent. In former times, the raiyats used to give a sheaf (*karai*) each of *goradhan*, *gundli* and *don-dhan* to the *bhandari*. The latter is now usually paid in cash by the landlord; but the impost was found to have been retained in many villages.

Ogra dhan.—Is the *dhan* which the raiyats used to contribute for the support of the village official who guarded the jungles. The *ogra* is now a thing of the past, but the impost was found to have been retained in several villages.

Mahua oil and mahua beheri.—Are taxes which were found to have been levied in some villages for the enjoyment by the raiyats of the fruits and flowers of *mahua* trees.

Kathar beheri.—Is a similar tax for the enjoyment of the fruits of "jack" trees.

Rakhi beheri.—Is a contribution which used to be made during the 'Rakhi festival.'

Brahman's niksari.—Is a fee which used to be paid to the Brahmins as a reward for their attendance at various festivals.

Shikhar khasi.—Is the amount which used to be paid to the landlord for his baits, whenever he went shooting.

Bardoch.—In former times the landlords of some villages used to exact from the villagers the best bullock of the herds. The cattle were collected in one place, and the landlord or his agent made the selection. The ceremony was known as the *barad janch*, of which the word *bardoch* appears to be a contraction. The origin of the impost is usually forgotten; but the tax was maintained as a miscellaneous *abwab* payable in cash.

Panriai, Dewani, Hakimi.—*Panriai* is a due paid by the jagirdars to the Maharaja's *panre* or record-keeper. *Dewani* is a similar payment, which used to be made to the Maharaja's dewan. *Hakimi* appears to represent the fees, which the Maharaja used to collect for payment of his tribute to the Mohamedans. These charges were collected from the jagirdars, and they in turn used to collect them from the raiyats.

Thana kharcha.—Is the charge which used to be paid for the upkeep of the police, who were formerly paid by the Maharaja and his under-tenureholders. The police are now paid, of course, by Government, but the impost was found to have been continued in several villages.

Laurdan ghi.—Is a small quantity (*tami*) of *ghi*, which used to be given to the landlords by the villagers at the time of the *Dasai* festival.

Saltamami.—Is a small cash payment made in some villages at the close of the agricultural year, when the raiyats' accounts were settled.

In most villages it was found that the payment of *rakumats* in kind had practically ceased, that the money values were collected instead, and in several estates the *rakumats* of all kinds were found to have been commuted in practice to cash payments generally amounting to Re. 1 or Rs. 1-8 per unit of area. In all such cases, wherever it was possible to determine the original items of *rakumats*, an attempt was made to find out which of the *rakumats* were payable by custom, and only the latter were allowed. In a few villages it was found that *dasai* and *batta* were leviable on non-*chattisa* holdings, e.g., on *korkar* and *uttakar* tenancies to which no complementary *tanr* was attached, the reason being apparently that these cesses had come to be considered as charges payable by the villagers who hold land, independent of the extent or character of their holdings.

203. Begari.—The incidence of *begari* was found to vary in the same way as *rakumats*. There is no doubt that at one time the raiyats of Ranchi district were accustomed to render a considerable amount of service for their *chattisa*-holdings. The tendency for many years has been to increase or enhance the cash rent, and reduce the number of days of compulsory labour. In some villages it was found that the raiyats had ceased to render *begari* for long periods. In some only two or three days' service were rendered in the year, but, in large numbers of villages, it was found that the raiyats still rendered from 10 to 15 days' service. The services were utilized for the cultivation of the landlord's khas lands, and the harvesting of the crops. In addition, the raiyats assisted him by carrying loads (*bhars*) for him on his journeys. The incidence was per tenancy and not per unit of land. Certain privileged castes were ordinarily exempted; and the Hindu raiyats generally rendered a smaller number of days' service than the aboriginal raiyats. The landlord supplied food or drink to the raiyats whenever they worked for him or attended him on his journeys, and the period of labour was generally limited to half a day, so that the cash value of a day's service rarely exceeded one anna. The *begari* renderable in a typical village in Ranchi district was found to be as follows:—

- 3 days' ploughing (*har*).
- 3 days' digging (*kori*).
- 3 days' planting or sowing (*ropni*).
- 3 days' cutting (*katni*).
- 1 day's thrashing (*misni*).
- 1 day's storing the grain (*morabandhi*).
- 1 or 2 days' carrying the landlord's burdens on his journeys (*des bides*).

204. *Extreme cases.*—In Chainpur, Kochedega, Kurdeg, and other areas, in which the aborigines had joined the Christian missions either *en masse* or in large numbers, it was found that they had practically ceased to render any services for periods varying from seven to twenty years. As the landlords had rarely taken any action to enforce the liability, it was held that they had abandoned their claims, and that, in any case, the local custom, which was the ground of the claim, no longer existed. Claims to the value of prædial services were, therefore, disallowed in these cases. On the other hand, not a few zamindars advanced the extravagant claims that their right to *begari* was only limited by their requirements, and several of them were found to have been in the habit of levying service on the most exorbitant scale. This was especially true of the class of interlopers, money-lenders and others, who in several parts of the district have superseded the old jagirdars and feudal chiefs. Guru Prasad Singh of Bishunpur was found to have actually levied 50 to 60 days' *begari* per annum from each of his raiyats in several villages of Bishunpur outpost. These exorbitant demands were found to be entirely contrary to the pargana custom and usage, and, as they were otherwise unreasonable and consequently invalid in law, they were disallowed for the most part, and the value of only 15 days' service was recorded, and amalgamated with the rent.

In intact Mundari *khuntkatti* villages, as a general rule, no prædial dues of any kind were found to be leviable.

205. *Origin of Begari.*—Dr. Davidson in his well-known report, dated 1839, advances the theory that *begari* was originally rendered by the aborigines to their landlords for their *beth-begari* or service holdings and their *bhuinhari* or *korkar* lands. The latter were lands reclaimed by themselves which, according to Dr. Davidson, they usually held free of rent, but subject to the performance of certain customary services. The theory that the *bhuinhari* and *ko kur* lands were specially burdened with *begari* gains some colour from the fact that, at the time of the *bhuinhari* survey, the special Commissioners found that *bhuinhari* lands were then either held rent-free or at a quit-rent, but subject to the rendering of a considerable number of days' service (30 days). Whatever may have the original plea or ground on which the services were imposed, it is clear that from early times the landlords exacted a considerable amount of service from all classes of their aboriginal raiyats. "The system", writes Dr. Davidson (1839), "is very much abused. Some proprietors or *thikkudars* are in the habit of cultivating a large piece of land, as *manjhihas*, and taking forced labour to an unlimited extent to cultivate it, in fact having no measure in their demands upon the Kols, until their *manjhihas* lands are all cultivated. This the Kols complain against, and in all cases when proved, I have punished the offenders severely; but the system has in some places gone on so long, that they are able to plead custom in many instances and at first sight apparently with some reason, till one reflects that the poor Kols have all this time been submitting to be plundered of their labour, because they do not know how to get redress." Notwithstanding the abuse of the system, Dr. Davidson did not propose to abolish it. "Its abolition," he said, "would unsettle all the transactions in this country"; but he proposed to circulate a proclamation that, under no circumstances, should the landlords levy more than the fair amount of *begari*, which he reckoned to be about 15 days.

The expedient of the proclamation was subsequently tried more than once; but it failed to have any permanent effect. The origin of the system is now of merely academic interest. Whether Dr. Davidson's theory is correct or not, it is quite certain that *begari* was for almost a century before the settlement operations an ordinary incident of every *chattisa* holding. Even, where the system was found to have broken down, there was nearly always proof forthcoming that the services had been levied in the past, save in the intact Mundari *khuntkatti* area, where the Mundas had always successfully resisted the imposition. The principle of assessment appears to have undergone considerable modification during the last century. During the settlement operations, it was found that *korkar* tenancies were generally altogether exempt from service, as also were *uttakar* tenancies, *i.e.*, tenancies to which no uplands are attached. The idea, and this was generally admitted, appears to have been that *begari*, as

well as *rakumats*, were due in respect of the uplands attached to the raiyats' holdings instead of money rents from which they were exempted. *Bethkheta* and other service holdings were found to exist in several villages; but special services were attached to them, in addition to the customary services renderable by the general body of the raiyats. The development of the system is an instance of an abuse crystallizing into a custom, which became so well established that the Legislature was finally obliged to give it legal recognition. Had Government tackled the question with resolution soon after the establishment of the British rule in the country, this would not have been necessary.

206. Reduction in commuted values.—The Revenue Officer commuting prædial conditions is obliged by law to consider the incidence of the commuted rent (section 105). If the amount payable in commutation of the conditions together with the money rent exceeds the rent, which would in his opinion be fairly payable in respect of the holding, he has the power to reduce the amount, if necessary, to the extent of disallowing the values of all prædial conditions. In general throughout the district, no recourse to this provision was necessary; but in individual cases in which the landlords had enormously increased the number of *rakumats* and the amount of *begari*, reductions were found necessary. The maxima rates of rent including commuted values ordinarily allowed were—

Rs. 5 per acre	... 1st and 2nd class <i>don</i> .
" " "	... 2nd and 3rd " "
As. 6 " "	... For cultivated uplands (<i>tanr</i>).

In some few special cases, higher rates were allowed. The rates noted above are very high, and considerably higher than the average district rates; but it was considered inequitable at this late stage to reduce or disallow the major part of conditions, the levy of which had been consecrated by custom or usage; and only clearly exorbitant or extortionate demands were reduced or disallowed. The result of commutation has, therefore, been to level extreme inequalities; but the vast majority of the dues, which were levied have been recorded and commuted, and their values have been added to the money rents.

207. Produce-rents.—The amount of land held in the district under the system of produce-rent is not extensive, when compared with Bengal or Behar districts. There are three systems of produce-rent in vogue, which are locally known as *adhbatai* or *sajha*, *saika*, and *maswar* or *kar*.

Under the *adhbatai* system, half the produce is payable as rent. Under the *saika* system, a fixed amount of the produce is payable, and under the *maswar* system, the raiyat pays an amount of the produce equivalent to the quantity of seed sown by him. The *saika* system is the most profitable from the landlord's point of view, as the amount of produce generally fixed is a heavy contribution. The heavy incidence of *saika* rents is due to the fact that they are generally levied from tenants who cultivate landlord's *manjhihas* or *khas* lands; in former times, it was customary for the tenants of the village to cultivate such lands not so much for profit, as by way of rendering service to the landlord. *Maswar* rents are levied on uplands (*gora* or *tanr* lands). Produce-rents are generally paid in *kats* of *dhan*.

Prior to the enactment of the present Tenancy Act in 1908, there were no provisions of law for the commutation of produce-rents as distinct from *rakumats* in Chota Nagpur. Section 61 of the Act now contains provisions for the commutation of produce-rent analogous, or similar, to the provisions of section 40 of the Bengal Tenancy Act.

Since the end of 1908, applications for commutation of these rents have been made by numbers of raiyats. The total number dealt with up to date does not, however, exceed 300. The district Courts have hitherto not entertained such applications; but, as the district field operations have been concluded, it will be soon necessary to transfer the jurisdiction to them.

208. Principles of commutation.—There is no rule of law which prescribes any definite principles on which the exact money rent to be fixed may be calculated. The principle followed in disposing of applications for commutation by the Settlement Courts was, however, uniform. It was held that the mean

between the average money rent payable for land of a similar description and the average net value of the produce-rent was a fair commuted value, when there were no special circumstances to be considered. If there are special circumstances favourable to the landlord to be considered, or, if he has created special facilities for irrigation or made other improvements likely to improve the productive powers of the land, it was held that a higher rent might be equitably fixed. It was also held that, when the incidence of the produce-rent is exceptionally heavy, as in the case of *saike* rents, the commuted rent ought not in any case to exceed the maximum cash-rent, which the raiyat is likely to be able to pay regularly and continuously. This maximum ought not to exceed by more than 50 per cent. the amount, which would be fixed as the commuted rent of the land, in a proceeding for the commutation of prædial conditions under the proviso to sub-section (3) of section 105 of the Tenancy Act. These principles have been confirmed by the decisions of the final appellate Court, the Commissioner.

209. *Difficulties*.—In applying these principles, the only practical difficulty experienced was in the determination of the average net value of the produce. The prevailing rates of money rent for lands of similar quantity can be determined at once by a reference to the village record. But the amount of produce payable, where the system is *sajha*, is not so easily determined. Hardly any reliable books of account were available in evidence; the landlords generally exaggerated the outturn, while the raiyat understated it. For this reason, crop-cuttings were made on an extensive scale in the year 1909-10 in various parts of the district, and a record was made of the average outturn of various classes of land. The average outturn was found to be as follows:—

2nd class <i>don</i>	...	...	19½ maunds of <i>dhan</i> per acre.
3rd „ „	...	...	15 „ „ „
4th „ „	...	...	9 „ „ „

The area of first class *don* lands in the district is insignificant. Sufficient experiments were not made in the case of the upland crops to enable averages to be struck. In the case of uplands, it is also necessary to consider the cycle of cultivation, as it is the custom in many parts of the district to leave uplands fallow, every second, third or fourth year. The important factor is, in any case, the produce of the *don* lands. In the case of *saike* rents, which are generally measured in *kats*, the value allowed was Re. 1 to Re. 1-2 per *kat* of *dhan* payable.

210. *Area of lands held on produce-rent*.—The table given below shows the areas of lands held under the produce-rent system by various classes of raiyats:—

NAME OF SUBDIVISION.	AREA OF LAND IN ACRES HELD ON PRODUCE-RENT BY—					
	Mundari <i>khuntkatti- dars</i> .	<i>Khuntkatti</i> rai-yats.	Settled and occupancy rai-yats.	Non-occu- pancy rai-yats.	Under- rai-yats.	Total.
Sadar ...	...	58	14,674	2,893	6,633	24,258
Gumla ...	...	...	8,850	4,773	2,162	10,785
Khunti ...	120	...	4,728	4,638	960	10,446
Total ...	120	58	23,252	12,304	9,755	45,469

The statistics given above do not include the areas of demarcated *manjhihas* lands, which are let out on produce rents. In these lands, which were demarcated under Act II of 1869, raiyati interests cannot accrue, and the cultivators of the lands are, therefore, not raiyats, but mere servants of the landlord. More than half the total area of the lands held on produce-rent is held by raiyats having rights of occupancy. The rents of these lands are, therefore, liable to commutation. The area of lands held by raiyats and under-raiyats on produce-rent is 71 square miles.

211. *Lac*.—The cultivation of lac throughout the district is sporadic, the production varying considerably with the demand, and the rents charged by the landlord for the trees on which it is produced. When prices rule high, the industry receives a considerable impetus; but in some thanas, though the conditions appear to be extremely favourable, it is rarely if ever grown. It is produced on the following kinds of trees, *kusum*, *paras*, *asun*, *dumar*, *bair*, *pakur*, *karam*, *pandan*, *sis*a, *pipar* and *putri*. The *kusum* and *paras* trees produce the best lac. The cost of production is trifling and the labour involved in collection comparatively light. The raiyats are obliged, however, to guard against theft, when the lac twigs are nearly ready for cutting. A fair sized *kusum* tree in favourable circumstances produces two crops within the year, and the annual value of the lac is not less than Rs. 10. Other lac-bearing trees frequently yield lac to the value of Rs. 3 to Rs. 5 per annum. In areas, therefore, where there are numerous *kusum* trees, the income derived from this source is considerable. For instance, it is said that the raiyats of East Palkot derive a greater income from their *kusum* trees than from their lands.

212. *Lac rents*.—The owner of a tree, *i.e.*, the person who planted or reared it, or his successor in interest, has an absolute right to grow lac on the tree, free of rent. This is the custom; but there is a tendency among certain landlords to ignore the fact, and to assess rents on all trees irrespective of the question of ownership. With regard to trees growing in the jungle or on waste lands, the existing custom is far from uniform. For instance, in Kochedega and Raidih in the vast majority of the villages, the person, who rears the lac, appropriates it, without making any payment to the landlord. In a few villages, the raiyats pay 1 to 3 annas rent per tree. In Chainpur, the manager of the Encumbered Estates has sublet the right to collect lac rents to a *thiccadar*, who gets what he can from the raiyats who use the trees for the purpose. In thana Ranchi, landlords charge 8 annas to Rs. 3 rent per tree. The manager of the Government estates levies 3 annas per *kusum* tree, but realizes no rent in the case of other lac trees. In thanas Ghaghra and Gumla, no customary payment is usually made by the raiyats for the use of lac trees, but in some villages the charge is annas 2 to 4 per tree, and in other villages the *adhbatai* system is in vogue, *i.e.*, the raiyats pay half the produce of each tree to their landlords. In thana Sonahatu, the lac trees of one village have been settled with a *thiccadar* for Rs. 500 per annum, and the inhabitants of ten or twelve villages pay a consolidated rent of Rs. 2 to Rs. 20 for the use of the trees in their villages. In Angara, *kusum* trees are generally assessed at 3 annas and *bair* at 2 annas per tree.

Only trees, on which lac is actually grown, are assessed. Not only are the payments made by way of rent not uniform for any considerable area, but they vary from time to time with the value of the lac and other considerations. It cannot, therefore, be said that the raiyats have a customary right to produce lac on trees, which are not their own property, free of rent or at any fixed customary rate of rent. The existing custom or practice has been recorded in the village notes of each village and in the *khattian* of jungle and grazing rights; but, it was found impracticable to make a detailed record of the rent paid by each and every raiyat, as it would be of little value, except for the year in which it was prepared. In fact, the legal criterion of liability to rent for lac trees, which are not the tenant's own property, is contract; and this can only be decided in case of dispute, on the evidence available in each separate case. It should be noted, however, that lac rents are not part of a raiyat's ordinary raiyati *jama*, and he can, therefore, relinquish the trees, without relinquishing any part of the lands included in his tenancy. The existing practice being so varied, any considerable extension of lac cultivation, it is to be feared, will give rise to serious disputes, as the raiyats still rightly or wrongly cling to the idea that they have some kind of proprietary rights in the jungle trees, and they are, therefore, likely to resist any considerable enhancements of lac rents.

213. *Right to use trees*.—By universal custom the person who first cultivates lac on the trees has the exclusive right to continue doing so, subject to the payment of the rent (if any).

214. *Units of land measure*.—As stated above, the local standards of land measurement are quite indefinite, and do not correspond to any uniform

superficial area. For instance, a *kat* of upland means the quantity of land which can be sown with one *kat* of seed paddy. A *kat* of seed is, however, indeterminate, and varies from 20 seers to one maund. No attempt has ever been made to fix the area of a *kat*; but, within a limited area, the superficial area of a *kat* of land tends to be the same. The units of measure for low lands, such as *pawas* and *annas*, are even more indeterminate. A *pawa*, for instance, in Ghaghra thana corresponds to the area which can be sown with 2 to 10 *kats* of seed paddy according to the locality. The quantity of seed sown is called the *paran* of the area. The quantity of seed necessarily depends on the fertility of the soil, the poorer classes of soil generally requiring more seed per acre.

The area of a tenancy is generally described with reference to the unit in vogue for low lands. Thus an *anna* of land of ordinary *chattisa* will include several *kats* of upland or *tanr*, though the tenancy is described as consisting of one *anna* of land.

In the Munda country, the *kat* is the measure frequently employed to describe a superficial area of low lands (*don*) as well as uplands (*tanr*), though in other parts of the district, its use is restricted to uplands.

I attempted to prepare a table showing the different units in force in different parts of the district with their approximate areas in acres. The latter were, however, found to vary so greatly even within the limits of individual thanas or outposts, that I gave up the attempt, as the results would be necessarily misleading. The great variations are not altogether due to the originally indeterminate character of the local units. A favourite method of illegal enhancement of rent in the district was to increase the nominal area of a holding, and sue for arrears of rent on it. Where this has occurred, the tendency is for the area of the local unit to contract. On the other hand, where lands fit for reclamation are plentiful, the raiyats frequently add the newly reclaimed areas to their existing tenancies, and pay no additional rent for them. In this case, the tendency is for the size of the local unit to expand. The land measures in vogue for lowlands (*don*) are known as *pawas*, *annas*, *rupees* and *kats*. The *kat* is the measure in vogue for uplands. The subdivisions of these units are noted below:—

The <i>Pawa</i>.	...	{	I.—	{	4 <i>kanis</i> = 1 <i>anna</i> .
				{	4 <i>annas</i> = 1 <i>pawa</i> .
				{	4 <i>pawas</i> = 1 <i>khari</i> .
		{		{	2 <i>annas</i> = 1 <i>adhpai</i> (in some areas).
			II.—	{	2 <i>kanis</i> = 1 <i>kanwa</i> .
				{	2 <i>kanwas</i> = 1 <i>adhpai</i> .
		{		{	2 <i>adhpai</i> = 1 <i>pawa</i> .
				{	4 <i>pawas</i> = 1 <i>rupee</i> .
				{	4 <i>annas</i> = 1 <i>kani</i> .
		{	III.—	{	2 <i>kanis</i> = 1 <i>kanwa</i> .
				{	2 <i>kanwas</i> = 1 <i>pawa</i> .
				{	2 <i>kanis</i> = 1 <i>kanasi</i> .
The <i>Anna</i>	...	{		{	2 <i>kanasis</i> = 1 <i>kanwa</i> .
		{		{	4 <i>kanwas</i> = 1 <i>anna</i> .
				{	4 <i>annas</i> = 1 <i>pawa</i> .
				{	4 <i>pawas</i> = 1 <i>rupee</i> .
		{		{	1 <i>khandi</i> = 20 <i>pailas</i> .
				{	1 <i>khandis</i> = 1 <i>kat</i> .

There are three scales of subdivisions of the *pawa* in vogue in different localities; but the *pawa* of one locality has little or no correspondence as regards area with the *pawa* in vogue in a different locality. The list given above is not exhaustive; nor are the subdivisions of the units always used with the same significance. For instance, a *kanwa* in some villages denotes the same superficial area as an *anna*, whereas in the ordinary scale it denotes one-fourth of that area. The *kat* is the most uniform measure of area throughout the district. It is the area which can be sown by a *kat* of seed, and approximates to an acre.

As instances of the variations of the rent assessed on these units, I may note that common rates are Rs. 2-4 per *anna* in Ghaghra, Rs. 6 per *pawa* in Sisai, Rs. 4 per *pawa* in Burmu, Rs. 7 per *pawa* in Kuru, Rs. 3 per *anna* in

Palkot, and Re. 1 per *kat* in Torpa. These rates are exclusive of prædial conditions.

215. Hals or ploughs.—In addition to these units, in a few places in Chainpur and Bishunpur, the cleared spaces on the top of the hills, locally known as *pats*, are measured in *hals* or ploughs. These areas are mostly cultivated by Asurs and Bhuinhars, who pay rent according to the number of ploughs which they have. Thus a *hal* of land is the area cultivated by one plough.

216. Latha or matha.—As indicated above a unit of the ordinary *chattisa* holding consists of *don* lands with a certain number of *kats* of *tanr* added in. Thus a *chattisa* holding measuring one *pawa* means a *pawa* of *don* with 8 or 10 *kats* of *tanr*. In some parts of the country, especially in Lohardaga and Bero, a second *pawa* of *don* is added, which is called the *latha* (leg) or *matha* (head). In these cases, the first *pawa* is generally of inferior quality, and to compensate the raiyat for its inferiority, the second *pawa* (the *latha* or *matha*) is included in the holding, though it is assessed to rent as one *pawa* in area.

217. Cultivating tenancies.—The ordinary stock of raiyati land in the cultivating possession of raiyats is known as *rajhas*, in contradistinction to the *manjhihas*, which includes all land, cultivated by the landlords or their servants, or let out by them on short leases, whether privileged or not. In thana Silli, the word *jiban* is frequently used with the same meaning as *rajhas*. The *rajhas* includes the following kinds of tenancies:—

Chattisa.—A tenancy consisting of lowland (*don*), with a quantity of upland (*tanr*) thrown in, called *lagan* or complementary *tanr*.

Murile Chattisa or Uttakar.—A tenancy consisting of lowlands only. *Murile Chattisa* generally consists of a better class of land than *uttakar*. No prædial conditions were ordinarily leviable on a tenancy of this kind, and the rate of money rent payable is also generally considerably lower than in the case of *chattisa* holdings.

Korkar.—Is the general term used to denote a tenancy consisting of lowlands, which have been converted from uplands (*tanr*), jungle, or waste into lowland (*don*) by terracing or embanking. Such lands are also known as *sajhwat* or *bahbala* in some parts of the district, e.g., in the Nawagarh estate in outpost Angara. The term *ariat* is used in these parts of the district, which adjoin the borders of district Hazaribagh.

The rate of rent payable for *korkar* is generally half the rate of money rent payable on *chattisa* holdings, excluding the value of prædial conditions. The custom is, however, not absolutely uniform. In parts of thana Silli, all lands reclaimed by the raiyats are assessed at $\frac{1}{10}$ or $\frac{5}{8}$ of the rates of rent payable on ordinary raiyati holdings. And in some parts of the district, e.g., Biru pargana, full rates are charged. In other areas the customary rate is half the rate paid for *uttakar* holdings; and in a few villages, e.g., in thanas Mandar and Kuru, it was found that *korkar* lands have been held rent-free from before the time of the *Bhuinhari* survey. There is no doubt that both the raiyats and landlords recognise the equity of the custom of half rates; but a few powerful landlords have here and there disregarded it. Dr. Davidson reported in 1839 that *korkar* lands were held rent-free, and subject only to the performance of about 15 days' service by the tenant, apparently independent of the area of the tenancy. This custom no longer exists. During the period of preparation, i.e., for the first three or four years, *korkar* lands are, however, invariably held rent-free. There is a tendency on the part of some landlords to class *korkar* lands as *uttakar*, the rates of rent payable on the latter being generally higher. When a *korkar* tenancy is abandoned by a raiyat, the landlord usually sublets it again as *uttakar* to a new raiyat. *Korkar* lands have also been converted to *uttakar* by the landlords by other means. The process is thus described by the attestation officer, who attested the villages of North and West Lohardaga:—

“In numerous villages I have found that, though the tenants exist in the villages from a very long time, there were no *korkar* lands of old standing. It is certain that the raiyats did prepare *korkar* lands in the olden times; and, the conclusion, which is corroborated by local testimony, is that, when *korkar* lands used to become as valuable as *uttakar*, the rate of rent was increased and the status changed to *uttakar*. The raiyats as usual were too feeble to protest. In many villages, the maliks have enhanced the original low rate, and made it equal to the *uttakar* rate.”

Damgat tanr.—In the more intensely cultivated portions of the district, such as thanas Ranchi, Bero, Lohardaga, and Mandar, in addition to the uplands, which are included in *chattisa* holdings, there are in almost every village blocks of upland or *tanr*, which were found to be assessed to rent separately. This is known locally as *damgat tanr*; and the average rent payable is four to six annas per local *kat*.

In addition to these tenancies, there is a considerable number of Mundari *khuntkatti*, *bhuinhari*, and *khuntkatti* tenancies. The first of these has been described above. The *bhuinhari* tenancies are those which were demarcated and surveyed under Act II (B. C.) of 1869. They are tenures under the law; but, for practical purposes, they may be regarded as raiyati tenancies.

218. *Statistics of bhuinhari lands.*—The areas of all kinds of *bhuinhari* lands recorded under Act II of 1869, including lands known locally as *bhuinhari*, *mahatoi*, *pahanai*, *mundai*, *dalikatari*, *bhutkheta*, and *panhhara* are shown in the table given below:—

SUBDIVISION.	AREA OF <i>bhuinhari</i> LANDS OF ALL KINDS IN ACRES.			
	<i>Don.</i>	<i>Tanr.</i>	Uncultivated.	Total.
Khunti	13,137·15	17,390·49	752·27	31,279·91
Gumla	18,827·20	20,052·83	1,830·99	40,711·02
Sadar	32,720·77	27,966·99	5,169·32	65,857·08
Total	64,685·12	65,410·31	7,752·58	137,848·01
Area in square miles ...	101·07	102·20	12·11	215·38

The total of 215 square miles represents the remnant of the area still held by the descendants of the original reclaimers of the soil (the *bhuinhars*) or their assigns, on privileged terms, in what may now be called zamindari villages. At the time of the *bhuinhari* demarcation a larger area was recorded; but a considerable percentage has passed to the possession of the landlords by sale, dispossession and abandonment. The status of *bhuinhari* lands, which have passed to sole landlords, was held to have merged in the landlords' superior right; and all such lands have been recorded as landlords' *khas*. No statistics appear to have been prepared by the *bhuinhari* Commissioners of the amount of land recorded as *manjhihas* or *bhuinhari*. It is, therefore, impossible to say what percentage of the latter has passed to the landlords in the interval since the completion of the *bhuinhari* survey operations.

219. "*Bhuinhari*" a local variant of "*khuntkatti*."—*Bhuinhari* is a local variant of the word *khuntkatti*, and many of the *bhuinhari* villages are villages in the same state of decay as a broken Mundari *khuntkatti* village. It has been sometimes said that the *bhuinhars* were the original owners of the soil as the Mundari *khuntkattidars* were. It is, no doubt, true that the oldest *bhuinhari* tenancies were created before the landlords established themselves in the country; but, it is certain that a considerable proportion of the *bhuinhari* lands was reclaimed from the jungle after that event, and the proprietary right, therefore, cannot be said historically to have ever belonged to these *bhuinhars*; and many of them make no such claim save in the sense that all aborigines regard themselves as owners of all the lands, which they or their ancestors reclaimed.

220. *Cognate tenures.*—The term *bhuinhari* includes the following cognate tenures:—

- (i) *Bhutkheta* or devil's acre.—The term is applied to lands which are believed to be haunted by evil spirits, or which are dedicated to the worship of the village spirits (*bhuts*).

There are two kinds of *bhutkheta*, viz., the *bhuinhari bhutkheta*, which is the property of a *bhuinhari khunt* (clan), and the *bhutkheta* which belongs to the whole village community. In the case of the former class of land, a member of the family spends the proceeds in propitiating the special family

spirit (*bhut*). The other class of *bhuinhari* lands is generally cultivated by the recognized Pahan of the village, and the proceeds are spent in making sacrifice to the village *bhuts*. The whole body of villagers belonging to the aboriginal tribe exercise the right to appoint a Pahan at intervals of generally three years, and the *bhutkheta* lands pass to the new incumbent for the performance of the specified duties. The lands were found to be held either rent-free or at a quit-rent from the zamindar.

(ii) *Pahanai and dalikatari*.—These lands are held by the village Pahans (priests) also for the performance of certain specified sacrifices.

(iii) *Panbhara*.—These lands are held by the Pahan's assistant, generally for the performance of certain duties, such as carrying water, and cooking during the performance of the sacrificial ceremonies.

(iv) *Mahatoi, Mundai*.—These are service tenures held by the headmen, i.e., the Mahtos and the Mundas.

221. *Miscellaneous tenancies*.—Besides the tenancies already described above there are a few other kinds, viz., service holdings (*naukran*), *geirahi* and *mardana* holdings, *brits*, and the village *Sarnas*. Service holdings are held from the zamindar on the sole condition of rendering personal service or agricultural labour. No raiyati interests accrue in such lands, the holder being liable to ejectment according to the terms of his contract, or for failure to perform the specified duties.

The *geirahi* and *mardana* lands are described in paragraph 165, Chapter IV.

Brit pujai.—These are holdings in possession of the recognized Pahan of the village or villages to which the *bhuinhari* operations did not extend. Grants made to Brahmans and Gosains for performing certain religious services have been also classed as *brit pujai*.

The *Sarnas* are the groves consecrated to the village deities, and are invariably the property of the village community. The trees growing therein cannot be cut down and appropriated either by individual landlords or raiyats; nor has the Pahan any rights in the lands or the trees, save as a trustee on behalf of the whole community.

Kush brit.—These are holdings granted to Brahmans and Gosains in pursuance of certain religious injunctions. They are held rent-free, and are resumable only on the failure of legitimate male heirs of the original grantee.

222. *Pahanai lands, etc., not alienable*.—The lands held by the Pahan or his assistants for the performance of certain specified duties are in reality the property of the village community. They are, therefore, by custom inalienable. The local Courts, apparently in ignorance of the character of the tenures, have, however, frequently allowed them to be sold in auction in satisfaction of decrees for debt obtained against the Pahan, and in this way many of the tenures have been lost to the village communities.

223. *Illegal enhancement of rents and prædial conditions*.—Mr. Webster, c.s., who was manager of the Chota Nagpur estate for some time, and who had, therefore, special facilities for studying the history of the increase in rent charges, wrote in 1878 :—

“Rents have been raised since the permanent settlement in almost every village. This we know from letters in the office dated, as far as I recollect, between 1820—1830, in which the writer speaks of the great and recent increase in the rate of rent from Rs. 3 to Rs. 9, while now a rate of Rs. 12 and Rs. 16 and even more is not uncommon. Common sense would tell us that rents have been increased since the permanent settlement, as in 1790 A.D., the country was more than half jungle, and the cultivators were subject to constant raids from the Mahrattas, who carried off their crops, so that at the then price of rice (about two maunds per rupee) the present rates of rent could not have existed.”

When the Chota Nagpur Tenancy Act, Act I of 1879, was enacted, provision was made for the settlement of rents by legal process. It was provided that the rent of an occupancy raiyat could not be enhanced save through the agency of the Courts, on application to the Deputy Commissioner; but provision was made for the enhancement of the rent of *korkar* tenancies under the terms of a written contract, or in accordance with local custom. Landlords were thus able to assess to rent, or to enhance the rents of, newly reclaimed lands according to custom or contract; but they were debarred from enhancing

by private contract the existing rents of other raiyati holdings held under rights of occupancy. The framers of the Act evidently considered that the aboriginal raiyats of the district were not competent to enter into a free and intelligent contract with their landlords. It is a remarkable fact, however, that the intentions of the Legislature were entirely disregarded not merely by the landlords, but by the Courts, which administered the law. The landlords frequently enhanced the rates of rent, and brought suits for arrears at the enhanced rates, generally after they had been realized for a couple of years. Prior to the commencement of the settlement operations, the bar to enhancement contained in section 21 of the Act appears to have been never urged in these suits, though there were usually clear proofs and even admissions that the rates of rent had been enhanced. The aboriginal raiyats themselves were, of course, ignorant of the law; but it is difficult to account for the fact that their legal representatives appear to have never raised the issue. The Courts appear to have decided disputes on the basis of the evidence produced and the arguments adduced by the parties' representatives, and, as the bar to private enhancement was never pleaded, the criterion for decision of the issue as to liability was practically whether the enhanced rent had ever been paid or not. The administration of the law, as carried out by the Courts, therefore, rendered the intentions of the Legislature nugatory. When the attestation of rents was taken in hand, an extraordinary state of affairs was found to exist. The landlords in most of the villages had illegally enhanced rents and collected them for years, and their action had been condoned by the decisions of the Courts in numerous cases. The enhancement of rent included the increase in the number and quantity of *rakumats*. Indeed the raiyats generally submitted to an increase in these items more freely than to an increase in the money rent. The Settlement Officers were, therefore, confronted with a dilemma. If they adhered to the law, they would be obliged to disallow rent and *rakumats*, which had been levied often for a considerable period. The landlords could also plead the numerous judicial decisions in their favour. If the provisions of section 21 of the Act of 1879 were adhered to, the result would necessarily be an enormous curtailment of landlords' incomes, and considerable hardship would undoubtedly have resulted in many cases. After some discussion, a compromise was effected, according to which all money rents, which had been paid by raiyats for a period of seven years, were held to be validated, provided they were fair and equitable. With regard to *rakumats*, as their incidence was often entirely arbitrary and irregular, strict proof of custom was always required. These principles have since received the recognition of the Legislature. Under section 26 of the present Tenancy Act, illegal enhancements of rent are validated, if they have been actually paid continuously for seven years before the commencement of the Act, and if they are not proved to be unfair and inequitable; but, in the case of *rakumats*, the criterion of legal liability is still local usage or custom, or contract when the tenancy commenced. The Legislature, however, while repairing the blunder in the administration of the rent law in the most equitable way, has again more definitely affirmed the principle that no enhancement of the money rent payable by an occupancy raiyat can be made in future by private contract, and that no Court shall for any reason recognize such illegal enhancements. There is still a specific exception in the case of *korkar* and new tenancies.

The question of the incidence of prædial service (*begari*) has been already discussed. As an extreme instance of the lengths to which some landlords were prepared to go, I may, however, cite the case of village Ruki in thana Ghaghra. The raiyats of the village were actually found to have agreed to render *begari* or compulsory labour on every alternate day to the landlord, who lived in the village. It seems at first sight incredible that such contracts could have been executed; but, as a matter of fact, though this is an extreme case, several such exorbitant contracts were found to have been executed and even registered by aboriginal raiyats. It is not to be supposed that these exorbitant demands did not lead to hardship. They were invariably the herald of agrarian discontent, and frequently have led to the ruin of not merely a goodly proportion of the raiyats, but of the zamindar himself. In the case of Ruki village, the strained relations of the landlord and tenants

led to continuous trouble. Finally the raiyats organized themselves in a body and murdered the landlord's agent in the village. Ten or fifteen of them were sent to penal servitude, and the landlord has been obliged to leave the village. An instance of the ill effects of enhancements wrongfully obtained through the Courts is to be found in the case of village Sikoe, in thana Gumla. The landlord of this village, under the guise of a suit for arrears of rent, obtained a decree for rent and *rakumats* at about three times the then existing village rates, about 15 years ago, in the Munsiff's Court at Lobardaga. The raiyats never paid the rents voluntarily from that date down to the period when the Settlement operations began. The landlord brought suit after suit, and only recovered his arrears after harassing and expensive proceedings. The result has been that he has lost all his property, and about one-third of the raiyats have either been dispossessed or abandoned the village. This is merely a typical instance of the state of affairs, which a hopelessly wrong decision as to the incidence of rent has almost invariably brought about.

224. Methods of enhancement.—Illegal enhancements of rent and *rakumats* were usually effected by the landlords by three methods:—

- I. by subletting their villages to *thiccadars*, with the sole object of effecting enhancements through their agency;
- II. by bringing a fictitious suit for arrears of rent in the Revenue Courts and suing at enhanced rates;
- III. by private arrangement with their raiyats;

225. The expedient of sub-letting villages to *thiccadars* has been a very common practice throughout the district. Typical cases of enhancements made through their agency are afforded by the history of rents in Bishunpur and Chainpur during the last 50 years. The officer, who attested portions of the area, Babu Ashutosh Mukerji, a Munsiff Assistant Settlement Officer, describes the history of the rise in rents as follows:—

"I have already spoken of the average rate of rent attested in this circle; but I think that I ought to describe the steps by which the original rate of rent was enhanced. The rate of rent per *anna* of land within the jurisdiction of thana Bishunpur was, 50 years ago, very low, viz., 10 to 12 annas only. This low rate continued to increase at different periods, until it became Re. 1-4 in the villages owned by the Bhya Guru Prasad and Re. 1-8 in the villages owned by the Bara Lal of Palkot. The enhancement of rent was the work chiefly of the different *thiccadars* to whom the proprietors used purposely to grant temporary leases of their villages, in the expectation that they might increase the rate of rent. The *thiccadars* could not but enhance the rate; for otherwise they would not be able to make any profits at all, the amounts of rent payable by themselves being nearly equal to the total amount of rent realizable from the raiyats of the villages at the time of the creation of the *thicca* leases. One Kunja Lal of Ranohi furnishes a very good example. During the lifetime of Lachman Singh, the late father of Bhya Guruprasad Singh, the general rate of rent in all his villages was only Re. 1-4, but on his death, the majority of them were given away by his widow in *thicca* lease to the aforesaid Kunja Lal. This event took place more than 20 years ago. Kunja Lal by fair means or foul enhanced the general rate of rent from Re. 1-4 to Re. 1-6-6 per *anna* of land and the poor raiyats had to submit to the enhancement. The original rate of annas 10, was first increased to annas 12, then to annas 14, then to a rupee, and then again to a rupee and annas four; and at last it became Re. 1-6-6 per *anna*. The history of the enhancement of rent in the Bara Lal's villages is similar. At present the rate of rent varies from Re. 1-4 to Re. 1-8 per *anna*. But 50 years ago, the rate was only annas 12 and through the efforts of the different *thiccadars* and sometimes *khorphoshdars*, this rate went on increasing until it came to be Re. 1-4 or Re. 1-8. I had to attest the existing rates because it was clearly established, and in many cases admitted by the raiyats that the present rates had been in existence for nearly 20 years and always for more than 7 years. In thana Chainpur where one *anna* of land includes about 2 to 3 acres of *don* lands, the existing rate is from Rs. 4 to Rs. 5-6. But here also the original rate was 30 years ago Rs. 2 to Rs. 2-8 only, and the present rate has been established through the medium of gradual enhancements made by the *khorphoshdars* and the *thiccadars*. The history of the increase in *rakumats* is the same. Originally both the number and quantities of the *rakumats* were small; but the *thiccadars* and the *khorphoshdars* and sometimes their *zarpeshgidars* also went on adding one item after another to those that already existed, at the same time increasing the quantity until they reached their present level. Of course, all these *rakumats*, which were of recent origin, were invariably disallowed; but when it was found that the *rakumats* claimed had been paid by the raiyats for at least 20 years, they were frequently allowed, as the raiyats in such cases often failed to adduce any rebutting evidence to prove their recent origin."

226. With regard to illegal enhancements through the agency of the Courts, the usual device of ill-disposed landlords was to prepare fictitious accounts for three or four years, and to grant receipts at higher rates to their servants, friends, and relatives, who hold lands in the village as raiyats. If they did not hold lands, it was easy to create a tenancy for the nonce. When everything was ready, the landlord sued the whole body of raiyats for arrears of rent at enhanced rates of rent and *rakumats*. The raiyats of the landlord's faction were made co-defendants. They admitted the correctness of the claim with regard to rates, but generally protested that they had paid the rent alleged to be due. The protest was merely meant to create the false impression that they were *bonâ fide* defendants. The Courts appear to have argued generally that the admissions made by such defendants were against their own interests and were, therefore, conclusive proof of the existing rates of rent. When I was Sub-divisional Officer of Gumla about seven years ago, I tried some hundreds of these suits, and had, therefore, the opportunity of studying the methods employed. In one case which I remember, a *mahajan* zamindar made his brother-in-law co-defendant in the suit for an arrear of Rs. 4 or Rs. 5. The brother-in-law's income was not less than Rs. 4,000 or Rs. 5,000 per annum, and he was on the best of terms with the plaintiff. I found that this pseudo-defendant had come to Court with the plaintiff's witnesses, who had, in fact, carried himself and his belongings from a distant village.

The books of accounts were often carefully prepared, and, when they were backed up by rent-receipts filed by witnesses, which seemed to prove the rate of rent conclusively, the array of evidence often appeared formidable. The evidence of the witnesses, who were almost invariably tutored, was not to be shaken by conventional questions in cross-examination. I remember one such case, in which the evidence on paper seemed to be overwhelming. When the evidence on behalf of the plaintiff was almost concluded, I noticed that the rent-receipts filed by his witnesses to prove the rates of rent were neatly tied with a fine thread, which was certainly not manufactured in the wilds of the district. I recalled one of the witnesses, and asked him where he had obtained the thread. After some hesitation, he replied that it was of the same material as the cloth (*luga*) which he wore and that he had extracted it from the cloth. I asked him to extract another such thread, which he did. It was obvious, however, that the latter thread was of entirely different manufacture, and when the fact was pointed out to the witness, he admitted that this was so, and explained that the plaintiff had given him the receipts that morning. One admission led to another, and the facts proved were that the plaintiff had brought his array of witnesses to Gumla, had fabricated the receipts in the vicinity of the Court, and made over to each witness a bundle of neatly-tied receipts for filing as evidence in the suit.

The plaintiff's suit having failed, it was necessary to accept the admissions of the defendants, and decrees had to be given accordingly at rates no doubt much less than the existing village rates.

During the last six or seven years, however, the Judicial Commissioners, Mr. Carnduff, Mr. Vincent and others, invariably insisted on a proper standard of proof, and the exploitation of the Courts by such fraudulent means consequently ceased.

227. *Thanas Mandar and Lohardaga*.—The state of affairs, which prevailed in parts of thana Mandar is thus described by Mr. Van Grieken, the Deputy Collector, who attested the rents in a large portion of the area:—

"The landlords began to make fictitious entries in their book of accounts (*jamabandis*) usually from the road-cess returns of 1898, and, in order to secure oral evidence, they managed to get a few *Sadans* (Hindu cultivators) to side with them, by making them gifts of land, or by allowing them to claim certain lands belonging to aboriginal raiyats and promising their support."

Babu Akhourri Gopi Kishore Lal, another Deputy Collector, describing the state of affairs in Lohardaga thana, writes:—

Save in the case of a few villages, belonging to the Maharaja and the Bara Lal of Palkot, I seldom came across any systematic system of *jamabandis*. Some of the landlords appear to have kept some sort of papers; but the majority produced what I may call 'settlement *jamabandis*,' either because they never kept accounts systematically before, or, more probably, because they were unwilling to produce the genuine ones. These "settlement *jamabandis*"

are prepared from day to day, as the *khanapuri* of the village proceeds. The landlords put down the disputed plots, showing them in the possession of their partisans. They then make several copies of the books in different ink and different handwriting, to represent the *jambandis* of different years. Thus it is that these papers contain a complete but false account of the village holdings."

228. Private enhancements.—Private enhancements were made directly by the zamindars themselves in various ways.

Sometimes they induced their raiyats to execute agreements for higher rates. Sometimes they commuted the *rakumats* to cash and amalgamated them with the rent, and then began to impose fresh ones, or they increased the nominal area of the holding and charged the same rates on a greater nominal area. The facility with which aboriginal raiyats execute *kabuliats* and agree to enhanced rents is phenomenal. No doubt, in some cases they do not understand the nature of the contracts into which they are entering. But, in many cases, it was clear that they did understand. They were found frequently to have paid the enhanced rates for two or three or more years without demur. But, when the landlord proceeded to further exactions, or committed some breach of village comity, they became recalcitrant, and went back to the old rates. For instance, the landlord of village Kharsidag in thana Ranchi enhanced the rate of rent about 12 years ago from 14 and 18 annas per *pawa* to Rs. 6 per *pawa*. For three years the villagers paid the enhanced rates, and then suddenly declined to continue doing so. They endeavoured to obtain a reduction in the Courts, but failed. Since that date, the landlord has been obliged to sue every year for his rents. Disputes of other kinds then arose, and the landlord's agent in the village was murdered. The raiyats were found to have taken forcible possession of all the landlord's khas lands for the last three or four years, and the landlord himself does not now venture to go near the village. Such arbitrary enhancements of rates, whether agreed to or not temporarily by the raiyats, have invariably led to disputes later on, and to much hardship and suffering. Sometimes the landlord was seemingly victorious; but, in all cases, I believe the prolonged struggle has led to heavy financial loss, and the only people, who have really benefited, are the members of the legal profession. I may quote a few instances of the results of these disputes.

In Tikratoli, thana Bero, the aboriginal raiyats having refused to pay enhanced rents, the landlord began a campaign against them, and has succeeded, mainly through the medium of suits, in ousting the whole aboriginal population of the village, and has replaced them by Hindus. At Turguru and Sakra in the same thana, the landlord endeavoured to do the same thing, but has hitherto failed. The procedure adopted is thus described by Babu H. D. Roy, the officer who attested the rents:—

"The Turguru landlord's *modus operandi* is to withhold receipts for rent and to allege that all lands held by Kol raiyats are service holdings. Result, the Kols have dispossessed him of his *manjhihas*, and are refusing to perform services in lieu of holding lands which are really service lands.

In Sakra, a *Bania* has taken bit by bit *mokarrari* leases of a large portion of the cultivated area from the original jagirdars, and his idea is that by taking these *mokarrari* leases he has acquired the right to dispossess all the actual cultivators of the soil.

For the last 10 years he has been fighting with these raiyats, and, as he would not accept the existing rents, they are simply holding on, and depositing very small sums in the treasury as rent.

These are only a few out of many instances of disputes as to possession or liability to pay rents and *rakumats*."

The illegal enhancement of the rent of Mundari *khuntkatti* tenancies has been already discussed above.

229. The other side of the picture.—It must not be supposed from the above that the landlords of the district as a body have systematically engaged in a campaign of plunder against their raiyats. There are numerous landlords in the district, I may specially note the Maharaja and the present Bara Lal of Palkot, who have always treated their raiyats with consideration and equity. Nor is it true that the raiyats have been always the victims in the struggle. From the period, when Christianity began to make strides in the district, the Christian raiyats began to exhibit remarkable powers of combination, and they found by no means inexpert imitators among a

section of their aboriginal non-Christian brethren. The favourite device employed by raiyats to reduce their rents was to deposit in the treasury a smaller sum than was really due at low rates. This device, of course, failed when employed against wealthy or influential zamindars, who keep proper accounts. But, impecunious landlords, who could not embark on a course of expensive litigation, were frequently found to have withdrawn the deposits from the treasury and to have omitted to sue for the deficits still due. Having accepted the rents at the rates at which they were deposited, which usually included no *rakumats*, these landlords usually found it impossible to obtain decrees at higher rates subsequently. A subsidiary cause of reduction of rent in a few places seems to have been mistaken decisions under section 12 of the repealed Tenancy Act. In some cases also the Courts have in recent years, by way of reaction from the former procedure, insisted on too high a standard of proof. It was not sufficiently recognized that the landlords of the district are a very backward race of people, and that it is impossible for them to produce immaculate and business-like books of account, and to substantiate their cases by abundant oral evidence, when all or nearly all the raiyats have entered into a combination to secure a reduction of rent. For this reason, in recent years the landlords have frequently requested the appellate or original Courts of the district to leave the final question of adjudication of rates to the Settlement Officers, when the rents were being attested. In such cases, the Courts gave a decree for arrears on the evidence available, but left the question of rates in disputed cases open for determination by the Settlement Officers.

The following extracts from notes written by Mr. Van Grieken and Mr. McPherson, attestation officers, who worked in thana Mandar, are an interesting commentary on the state of affairs prevailing in this area. Mr. Van Grieken writes:—

“The majority of landlords in this area are Baraiks (Rajputs of the Chhatriya castes) with a sprinkling here and there of Brahmans and one or two other castes.

Ninety per cent. of these landlords are on exceedingly bad terms with their raiyats as is proved by the high incidence of disputes between them. There are two or three causes for this. One seems to be the prosecutions under section 12. The raiyats and landlords are both to blame. Taking advantage of the Government order and knowing that settlement operations were near, the raiyats began by offering lower rents and refusing to pay *rakumats*. They also began to deposit rents for other lands which were not in their possession. They knew too that they could do this with impunity, as the landlord had absolutely no documentary evidence and in fact no oral evidence either.”

Mr. McPherson writes:—

“The relationship between almost all the landlords and the raiyats is very strained. Considering the number of disputes, one wonders how the parties have cultivated any lands in the village peaceably. The disputes about rents frequently arose in this manner—

The raiyats offered rents at lower rates than those demanded by the malik and asked for receipts at these rates. The landlords had got to accept such rents or sue the raiyats. The latter course they found was unprofitable as they had no documents to support their claims, and no raiyats would speak in their favour. Consequently in most cases, they accepted the rents offered by the raiyats, but entered their own scale of demands in the rent-receipts, and for this they were fined under section 12 (section 54 of the present Tenancy Act). Now, although the summary decision in the proceeding did not make the question of rates *res judicata*, it has been found that in no case did the landlords succeed in proving higher rates, subsequently. After the decisions in such cases, the raiyats deposited their rents in the Government treasury, knowing that the landlords had no documentary evidence or that it was discredited. The raiyats even began to deposit rent for lands which were not in their possession, generally the landlord's or his servants' lands. Being well organized and having the upper hand they often forcibly took possession. The landlords, on the other hand, were not idle. When they found they had failed for want of documentary evidence, they began to remedy this defect, and to prepare a number of “old” *jamabandis*, taking as their basis, the old road-cess returns, which are themselves generally incorrect. Receipts, at least the counterfoils, were written up at the rates claimed by the landlord, especially in cases where the raiyats had simply withheld their rents and had not deposited. The “Sadan” (Hindu) raiyats were gained over by grants of land, and rent receipts were granted to them for other raiyats' lands. Servants and relatives were granted rent receipts, and were incited to claim the raiyats' lands. Suits were brought against these people, and collusive decrees obtained, in order to establish a fictitious standard of rent.”

230. Increase of rent not synonymous with enhancement.—It should be noted that increases in rent were not always synonymous with enhancement in rates. In some parts of the district, where reclamation is going on rapidly, there is a

tendency on the part of the raiyats to include new holdings (*korkar*) in their old tenancies, without paying additional rents. The landlords frequently adopted the measures ready to hand to counteract this tendency, the remedy being to increase the rates, the normal area remaining the same.

The objection to this procedure is, of course, that it is necessarily arbitrary. It takes no account of the privileged character of *korkar* holdings, and the same rates of rent were levied from all the villagers, whether they had increased the area of their original holdings or not.

231. Important considerations.—The results of the Settlement operations and the prolonged and extensive enquiries made by the Settlement Officers appear to show that the aboriginal raiyats of the district are not competent to enter into a free and intelligent contract with their landlords regarding the incidence of rent, and that, in any case, it is not sound policy to allow them to do so.

It also appears to be clear that the Revenue Courts of the district have, in the past, failed to administer the Tenancy Law properly. This was due to two causes, viz., the negative attitude adopted by them, which assumed that the contestants were equally represented and on equal terms, and the prevailing ignorance of local customary law and agrarian conditions. The latter was no doubt the main cause. No sufficient data were available to enable the Courts to weigh the probabilities with any reasonable chance of success, and without the record-of-rights, which has now at length been prepared, it was really impossible to secure an equitable or effectual administration of the agrarian laws.

232. Inconsistencies in policy.—The policy pursued by Government and the procedure of the Courts have been also frequently inconsistent and lacking in thoroughness. It has been already explained why the operations under the Chota Nagpur Tenures Act failed.

The manner in which prædial conditions were dealt with is remarkable for its inconsistency. By Regulation VIII of 1793, the landlords throughout Bengal were enjoined to consolidate all cesses with the *asal* rent, and definitely prohibited from assessing any new cess and *rakumats* (*abwabs*), which were not in existence at that date. The district of Ranchi with other parts of Chota Nagpur was, however, specially exempted by section 2 of Regulation IV of 1794 from the operation of the former injunction, though the landlords were still prohibited from assessing new cesses. The latter prohibition was entirely disregarded, and matters came to such a pass that about the year 1827, the Magistrate of Ramgarh issued a summary order enjoining their total abolition. Dr. Davidson, writing in 1839, appears to have thought that the question of *abwabs* had been finally disposed of by this order. In this he was mistaken. The landlords continued to levy the charges and to create new imposts. In 1869, the High Court disallowed them, as non-realizable under the law. In 1879, the Legislature again gave them legislative recognition, but laid down no exact criterion of liability. The Courts, apparently in ignorance of their history, allowed them wholesale without any reference to their antiquity or reasonableness. In 1897, a Commutation Act was passed, which, amongst other matters, provided for their voluntary commutation. A number of applications were disposed of by the district Courts. The latter were enjoined by law to have regard to those services and conditions which were leviable by ancient custom; but the injunction was disregarded in practice, and all conditions, which were proved to have been levied at the time, were commuted. When the Settlement operations commenced, the Commutation Act was again amended, and the Revenue Officers of the Settlement department were enjoined to commute to cash only such charges as were proved to be leviable by ancient custom, and at the same time arrangements were made for their compulsory commutation throughout the district. This procedure created serious discontent among the landlords, who could plead the procedure of the district Courts, the more so, as the law prescribing the procedure for voluntary commutation still continued to remain in force. The law was again amended in 1908, and the criterion was made local usage and custom, or contract when the tenancy commenced; and, at the same time, the proof of local usage was made easy by shifting the burden of proof to the raiyats, whenever the landlord could prove that the conditions had been levied for five years continuously.

The history of the manner in which money rents were dealt with presents analogous features.

233. Origin of rent.—In considering the question of future enhancements, the origin of rent charges is an important consideration. The history of their imposition in the district may be described in a few words. The Maharaja of Chota Nagpur was the first feudal chief of the aborigines, who settled in, and cleared, the country. The latter agreed to pay him a small tribute, which appears to have been permanently fixed. The tenacity and the success with which the Mundari *khuntkattidras* in intact Mundari *khuntkatti* villages have clung to the idea that the tribute payable for their villages was fixed appears to confirm this theory. It is also clear, in view of the very light assessment of revenue payable to Government for the Chota Nagpur estate (Rs. 15,000), that even as late as the end of the eighteenth century the Maharaja realized only a small tribute from his subordinates. In the course of time, a small number of subordinate feudal chiefs established themselves in the country, and they also received a fixed tribute; all these ancient chiefs were aborigines in origin. When they became Hinduized, and intermarried with Hindu families, they began to introduce Hindus into the country on a large scale and to give them jagir grants for maintenance. The original status of these jagirdars is peculiar. They did not conquer the country, nor can they plead even the right of conquest as the basis of their title. They merely took over the right of the Maharaja and other feudal chiefs to receive tribute from the inhabitants of certain defined tracts; but in reality they received roving commissions to go forth and exact what they could in the tracts assigned to them; and this they did effectively. Large numbers of them established themselves in the country at comparatively recent periods and since the British occupation.

As has been explained before, the British made no real attempt to govern the district before the establishment of the South-West Frontier Agency in 1834. The jagirdars had, therefore, a free hand, and their superior intelligence and organization enabled them to establish a sort of supremacy in the country. The British Courts from the commencement treated them as Bengal zamindars, and they have now, no doubt, a prescriptive right to that status.

This is the history in brief of all the more settled portions of the district. It is true that several of the outlying parts of the country were cleared and settled after the zamindars had established a supremacy within these tracts.

The aboriginal races of the district, however ignorant, understand perfectly well the origin of rent. All their traditions point to a time when they held their lands rent-free, or at quit-rents, and this is the real basis of their objection to enhancements in any shape or form, however reasonable they may seem according to modern conditions. As their ancestors agreed to pay only a fixed tribute to their feudal chiefs, they cannot conceive of any inherent right of the jagirdars to increase or enhance the rents of their holdings; nor do they in their innermost minds admit that the latter have any *prescriptive rights*.

Messrs. Slacke and Lister in their joint note have described the origin of rent in the Mundari area as follows:—

“There is little documentary evidence regarding the early history of the Mundaris; but it appears to be a common feature in all their traditional stories that the recognition of the primacy of the Maharaja of Chota Nagpur was a voluntary act on the part of the majority of the village communities; and this recognition was the first derogation from the rights of full proprietorship of the village community. Tradition agrees with *a priori* inferences in ascribing a very small value to the dues renderable to the Maharaja. For it is quite certain that money dues must have been light up to the period of the British occupation; and even now Rs. 5 is the normal annual rent payable by an intact *khuntkatti* village. *Begari*, even if ever rendered at all, must have been an insignificant and rarely recurring service in the case of villages at all remote from the Maharaja's residence; and, if “aids” were ever rendered, they must, being perishable goods, have been limited in amount to the capacity of consumption in the Maharaja's establishment. The story of the Mundaris is shortly this: “The Maharaja delegated his rights to *khorposhdars* or to his Hindu *protégés*, and contributions of *begari* and ‘aids’, which had been unfelt when distributed amongst a thousand villages, became onerous when borne by a few only. Moreover, these petty tenure-holders were not content with receiving the small sum which

constituted the village quit-rent payable to the Maharaja. They began by demanding a portion of the cultivated land for their maintenance, the cultivators of which were to pay rents direct to the tenure-holder. This *rajhas* as it is called in thana Tamar (where its origin is so recent as to be unambiguous) was extended by the inclusion of all lands subsequently added to the cultivated stock; and the area of *khuntkatti* land was thus intended to become fixed."

Thus the theory arose that in the typical Ranchi village there are three classes of land, viz., (1) *bhuinhari*, or the original clearings of the village clan; (2) *rajhas*, or the rest of the cultivated village lands; (3) those portions of cultivated land which had come into the personal cultivation of the tenure-holder. This theory fits in with the appearance of existing facts, and supports the claims of the tenure-holders to be considered landlords, in the Bengal sense, of the whole of the village; but historically it is demonstrably false. The true facts are not only indicated by the Mundari tradition, but are proved by the evidence of villages exhibiting at the present day each successive stage of decay from the intact Mundari *khuntkatti* type; whilst the impossibility of applying the ordinary theory is conclusive proof of its historical falsity.

Now the grievances of the Mundaris are peculiarly aggravated by the fact that the successive loss of all the rights of ownership until their present status has become practically that of ordinary raiyats has been brought about, not by the deliberate decision of Government, based on a full review of the facts, but by the imperceptible operation of impersonal legal principles, the suitability of which to the local environment was never adequately considered. Macaulay in his speech on the need of codification emphasised the value of uniformity where uniformity is possible. Had the attendant warning regarding diversity been heeded, the Mundaris of Chota Nagpur, a race whose language proves them to belong to an early stage of human development, would not have been given an agrarian law and legal principles derived from the peculiarities of historically unconnected races. The Evidence Act and the Civil Procedure Code may or may not be suited to the needs of advanced commercial communities; for jungle tribes they are grotesque instruments of oppression."

CHAPTER VI.

LANDLORDS' PRIVILEGED LANDS.

234. When the Chota Nagpur Tenancy Act came into force, the Local Government decided that it would be expedient to make a final record of landlords' privileged lands throughout the district. Notifications were accordingly issued under section 119, and the record of such lands has now been completed for the whole district. At the time of writing, the final publication has not been concluded, and it is still possible for the parties interested to institute suits in the Settlement Courts, to contest the correctness of the entries or omissions therefrom. It is, however, safe to assume that there will be very few, if any, such suits, and the statistics, which are now available, may, for all practical purposes, be considered correct. The record was prepared simultaneously with attestation in the last two years' field operations. For the rest of the district, it was necessary to depute special officers to prepare the records at convenient centres, on the basis of the settlement records, which had been already completed from final publication. Babu Akhouri Gopi Kishore Lal, Deputy Collector, prepared the record for the whole of the Gumla subdivision, except thana Sesai. Babu Hari Das Roy, another experienced Assistant Settlement Officer, was responsible for the preparation of the records in the major portion of the Khunti subdivision.

235. *Procedure.*—As the preparation of the record was compulsory, it was necessary to enquire into the existence of landlords' privileged lands, whether they were claimed by the landlords or not, and this was invariably done. The attestation officers, who prepared the record, informed the landlords of the general character and finality of the proceedings, and a notice was posted in each camp informing persons interested that the record would be prepared, village by village, at the same time as attestation. For the rest of the district, special precautions were necessary to ensure that the landlords were cognizant of the general character of the enquiries to be made. General notices were accordingly published some months beforehand and posted at thanas, *katcharis*, and in the villages affected. Besides the general notices, a special notice was served on each tenure-holder, whose name appeared in the *khewat* as being in possession of lands, calling upon him to appear on a fixed date at a specified centre and prefer his claims (if any). The subsequent procedure

was the same as in ordinary settlement operations. After completion of the records, they were draft published, and objections under section 83 were entertained and disposed of. The number of the latter was insignificant (875). No enquiries were made in villages, in which there were demarcated *manjhihas* lands, nor in intact Mundari *khuntkatti* villages. In the former case, the claim to privileged lands is barred by law (section 124); and, in the latter case, as the joint Mundari *khuntkattidars* are the co-owners of the villages themselves, and final and conclusive records of the incidents of their tenancies had already been made, landlords' privileged lands can not exist within their limits. Besides, as occupancy rights accrue by local custom in all lands included within Mundari *khuntkattidari* tenancies, such lands cannot be "privileged" in the sense in which landlords' privileged lands are defined in section 118 (1) of the Chota Nagpur Tenancy Act.

236. Progress.—The preparation of the record for the Khunti sub-division was commenced in August, 1909, and concluded in February, 1910. The programme for Gumla sub-division was commenced in the first week of September, 1909 and concluded in the last week of March, 1910. The records went through the usual processes in recess subsequently, viz., check, copying, and final check.

237. Principles elicited in the enquiry.—During the enquiries it was found that all lands in the khas cultivation of a landlord are locally known as *manjhihas*. The word *manjhihas* has a special legal significance in connection with the proceedings under the Chota Nagpur Tenures Act [II (B.C.) of 1869]. No occupancy rights can accrue in *manjhihas* or *beth-kheta* lands demarcated under that Act, however long the possession of the tenant. There is besides a wide difference between the meaning of the word *manjhihas* as locally used and the meaning of landlords' privileged lands as defined in the Tenancy Act. Under the provisions of section 118(1), the criteria for the latter are:—

- (i) The lands must be cultivated by the landlord himself with his own stock or his own servants, or by hired labour, or they must be held by a tenant on a lease for a term of years or year by year.
- (ii) The lands must be locally recognized as lands in which occupancy rights do not accrue by local custom.

In applying these criteria, some difficulties were encountered. The landlords generally claimed that all lands in their khas possession and such as were let out to raiyats on produce rent or as service tenancies should be recorded as privileged. The raiyats as a rule displayed little interest in the proceedings, as they did not ordinarily affect lands in their own possession. It was, therefore, necessary for the investigating officer to institute independent enquiries of his own accord to discover the original character of the lands. It is undoubtedly the custom that occupancy rights do not accrue by custom in lands prepared by the landlords themselves or their servants on their behalf. Such lands are fairly numerous. Abandoned holdings and lands of which the raiyats have been dispossessed from time to time, which really constitute the bulk of the landlords' khas lands, are locally regarded in a different category, as regards the question of the accrual of occupancy rights, though they are also loosely denominated as *manjhihas*. All such lands belong to the common raiyati stock, and they do not lose that character merely because they have been transferred to the landlords' possession.

By applying the criterion of local custom regarding the accrual of permanent raiyati interests in the lands, it was possible to dispose of the vast majority of the claims satisfactorily. The fact that permanent raiyati interests do accrue by custom in any lands is always certain proof that they were originally raiyats' holdings. There was rarely any dispute as to the custom. In many cases, it was possible of course to find out the names of the persons who originally cultivated the lands as raiyats. But in some cases, this was not possible owing to the long period of agrarian strife, and to the incessant and continuous disturbances of possession in cultivating tenancies. In a small number of cases, it was not possible to determine with certainty whether the lands were originally prepared by the landlord or not. But whenever it was found that the lands had been in the khas possession of his family for two or three generations and had been always treated as privileged, the claim was allowed.

A useful criterion for the determination of the issue in such cases is the system of management. For instance, if the lands have been let out on strict conditions on a system of produce rent, such as *saika*, an inference may be drawn from the fact that the lands were regarded by the landlord as privileged. It is the custom to lease genuine landlords' privileged lands on such conditions, though, of course, it does not follow that all lands so leased are privileged. If, on the other hand, they have been leased out for indefinite periods or on cash rentals for considerable periods, the inference is that they really belonged to the raiyati stock. In the absence of other evidence, these criteria were applied in a small minority of cases. Claims were sometimes made to record uncultivated lands, such as mango groves, as privileged; but the law clearly contemplates the record of cultivated lands only, and all such claims were therefore disallowed.

238. Legal bars.—In numerous cases it was found that landlords had failed to comply with the provisions of the law necessary to safeguard their peculiar rights in privileged lands. If a landlord wishes to bar the accrual of occupancy rights in privileged lands, in the case of lands leased out to tenants, he must now take the precaution of leasing them only for a term of years or year by year, and from the 1st April, 1909 all such leases had to be in writing. If he fails to comply with these provisions, occupancy rights accrue in the case of settled raiyats, as soon as the settled raiyat is admitted to occupation, and in the case of other raiyats after twelve years' possession. Before the Chota Nagpur Tenancy Act (Act VI of 1908) came into force, the provisions of law were not so stringent; the law of the "settled raiyat" was not in force in Chota Nagpur, and written leases were not obligatory. But occupancy rights accrued by twelve years' cultivating possession to all raiyats cultivating lands locally known as *manjhihas* or *nij-jote*, when the landlord had not taken the precaution of leasing them out for a term of years, or year by year. Several of the more important zamindars, it was found, had failed to comply with these provisions. The leases given by them of their privileged lands were often for indefinitely long periods, and most of them failed especially to comply with the provisions enforcing written leases from the 1st April, 1909. The consequence was that the privileges attaching to these lands have been lost to these landlords, and the lands themselves are now included in the raiyati stock.

The zamindars, who lost most heavily in this respect, were the manager of the Wards' and Encumbered estates, the Maharaja of Chota Nagpur, and the Bara Lal of Palkot, the first especially. The system in vogue under the Encumbered Estates management is to lease out the privileged lands to *thiccadars*, who sublet them to raiyats, generally without any written leases. The *thiccadar* is a tenure-holder, and occupancy rights accrue to the raiyat introduced by him on the lands under the statutory law. The remedy is of course to let out such lands in future to *raiya*s under written leases for a term of years. The latter system is preferable even from the point of view of management, as the *thiccadars* make an intermediate gain, and there is no reason why the estate should not reap the full profit.

239. Statistics.—The statistics showing the areas of the land recorded as privileged in each thana and outpost will be found in the appendices with other details. The percentage of lands recorded as privileged to the total cultivated area of the villages dealt with was 6·88 in the case of low lands (*don*) and 4·26 per cent. in the case of uplands (*tanr*), or 5·12 per cent. for both kinds of lands. While the percentage of *don* fields recorded was practically the same as the percentage recorded as *manjhihas* by the Special Commissioners in the areas dealt with by them, there was a noticeable increase in the percentage of uplands recorded as privileged, viz., 4·26 as against 2·62.

The main reason for this increase is to be found in the fact that at the time of the *bhuinhari* survey, uplands were considered to be of little value. The landlords, therefore, did not include much uplands in their claims. With the increase of the population, the extensive clearings made during the last 20 years, and the opening up of the country, uplands have become more valuable; and, during the enquiries, the landlords consequently claimed every inch of uplands as privileged, to which they could advance any reasonable claim. In addition, in the jungle areas of Bano, Kolebira, Kurdeg, Bishunpur,

Raidih and Palkot, many of the landlords belong to the Rautia, Binjhia, and Kharia castes. Landlords of these classes generally plough with their own hands, and they have reclaimed a good deal of jungle lands themselves. They were, therefore, able to prove that a considerable quantity of uplands claimed was land which they or their ancestors had themselves reclaimed, and these uplands were recorded as privileged.

240. The table given below shows the areas of landlords' privileged lands, *manjhihas* and *beth-kheta* lands, and other lands held *khas* by the landlords of the district:—

SUBDIVISION.			Area of <i>manjhihas</i> and <i>beth-kheta</i> lands (Act II of 1869) in acres.	Area of landlords' priv- ileged lands in acres.	Landlords' <i>bakast</i> lands.	TOTAL.
Gumla	...	...	27,875·60	30,279·56	73,264·49	131,419·65
Khunti	...	...	9,328·77	9,299·16	33,312·67	51,940·60
Sadar	...	...	19,713·58	2,047·69	54,225·16	75,986·43
Total			56,917·95	41,626·41	160,802·32	259,346·68
Total area in square miles			89	65	251	405

Of the total area of the district, only 3,614 square miles are under cultivation at present. The landlords, therefore, hold 11·2 per cent. of the total cultivated area either *khas*, or as privileged lands sublet on short-term leases; and this area comprises a high percentage of the most valuable lands in the district.

241. *Manjhihas* and *beth-kheta*.—The *manjhihas* and *beth-kheta* lands referred to above are the landlords' privileged lands, which were surveyed and demarcated under the Chota Nagpur Tenures Act of 1869.

They are at the absolute disposal of the landlord, and no rights of occupancy or even of non-occupancy can accrue in them in any circumstances. *Beth-kheta* lands are, as the name implies, lands set apart for the purpose of service. The villagers, who cultivate them, render special services to the landlords; or, they are cultivated by the whole body of villagers, who enjoy the produce in common and render the fixed number of days' service to the landlord in return. *Manjhihas* means literally the headman's share. The word appears to be an interesting survival of the time, when the villages were ruled by headmen, and landlords had no jurisdiction in the village economy. The landlords have appropriated this heritage, and demarcated *manjhihas* lands now mean lands in the possession of the village landlord, and at his absolute disposal. Under the Act of 1869 all lands were demarcated as *manjhihas* or *beth-kheta*, which the landlords could prove to have been in their possession for more than 20 years before the passing of the Act. A considerable proportion of these lands were lands which had been originally reclaimed by the raiyats or *khuntkattidars* of the villages, but which had been appropriated by the landlords in the course of time. The principles on which landlords' privileged lands were recorded under section 119 of the present Act were altogether different.

242. *Costs*.—The costs of the operations under section 119 throughout the district did not exceed Rs. 8,000. The whole cost has been amalgamated with the cost of the general settlement operations, and no special charges were recovered from the landlords. Considering the importance and the finality of the record, the expenditure was insignificant; and the rapidity with which the record was completed at a very small cost is a signal instance of the efficacy of a record-of-rights as a basis for the settlement of acute agrarian problems. The *bhuinhari* operations took over 10 years to complete, and the cost of the operations was Rs. 2,69,887.

CHAPTER VII.

TENURES.

243. The cultivating tenancies, some of which are technically tenures, have been already described. It is proposed to give here a brief account of the ordinary zamindari tenures found in the district.

244. *The Maharaja's khas estate.*—The Maharaja of Chota Nagpur is the proprietor of the whole district, except 53 square miles, which appertain to the Padma and Kashipur estates. Of the total area, he holds 724 square miles *khas*, the rest being held by various tenure-holders under him. There are usually only one or two degrees of sub-infeudation.

245. *Distribution of tenures.*—The table given below shows the distribution of tenures to the first degree of sub-infeudation, with the areas occupied by the various classes of tenure-holders in square miles :—

	Area held by proprietors.*	AREA HELD BY TENURE-HOLDERS.									Total.
		Jagir.	Kungoh.	Dyut.	Mokarrari.	Thicca.†	Zarpasigi.	Permanent absolute grants (doami).	Rent-free.	Others.	
	764'62	4,480'96	1,050'93	134'89	22'55	126'68	2'77	493'34	12'11	14'44	7,103'59
Percentage to total area of district ...	10'8	63'1	14'8	1'8	'3	1'8	'1	6'9	'2	'2	

* Includes *khunkhatti* tenancies held direct from the proprietors.

† Includes 14'04 square miles *doami* or *bemyudi thiccas* of Silli and Angara.

246. *Jagirs.*—The jagirs are the most numerous and most important class of tenures in the district. They may be described under two heads, viz., special jagirs and service jagirs.

247. *Special jagirs.*—The special jagirs consist of grants of villages to relatives or servants of the various Maharajas and to other persons, who rendered some services or performed feats which were considered specially meritorious. As instances of the last kind, I may note the following grants of villages situated within the limits of the present thana Ghaghra. Village Hahri was given to a composer of *ex-tempore* poems with whose skill the Maharaja of the day was greatly pleased. Village Ghoratangar was granted to a noted wrestler for his feats of strength. Seven villages were granted to old domestics of the "raj" household, one to a "darwan," one to a "sepoy," one to a *hukabardar* (a person who prepares the Maharaja's *hukah*), one to a *kotwal*, and three to ordinary body servants. Eight villages were granted for special services rendered, six as *murkatti* to persons who killed enemies of former Maharajas under his orders, and two others for miscellaneous services.

248. *Service jagirs.*—The origin of the service jagir is as follows :—Prior to the establishment of British dominion, the chiefs of Chota Nagpur were constantly engaged in petty warfare, sometimes with their own vassals and sometimes with neighbouring potentates. To protect their own country from invasion and to control their own turbulent vassals, a standing force or militia were required. For this purpose, the chiefs made grants of villages—often entirely ignoring the rights of the cultivators—to suitable persons, on condition of their keeping a force always ready to come to their support, when required. These jagirs are, therefore, feudal tenures, "the counterpart," as Mr. Cuthbert describes them, "to those engagements which existed to so great an extent in Europe during the middle ages." When peace was restored by the British Government, the necessity for this military service ceased. The services were, therefore, remitted, and in lieu a cash rent imposed, as well as some prædial dues (*rakumats*). The latter have now been commuted to cash payments. The jagirdars have, in fact, become in course of time ordinary zamindars owing no special obligation to their former feudal chief, save the payment of a small quit-rent. Besides the feudal jagirs, there are a few other kinds of jagir

tenures of a more modern character, which were created for the rendering of special services to the Maharaja.

249. *Khorposh tenures.*—Khorposh tenures consist of grants of villages or portions thereof made to relatives by way of maintenance. Owing to the almost universal prevalence of the law of primogeniture, the eldest son succeeds to the landed property; but, by custom, he is obliged to make maintenance grants to younger brothers or other near relatives. When an estate is resumed in default of male heirs, it is the invariable custom to make a *khorposh* grant to the widow (if any) of the deceased jagirdar or other tenure-holder, for support during her life time.

250. *Religious brits.*—The religious *brits* are grants of villages or portions thereof to Brahmans for the due performance of worship (*puja*), or for the maintenance of temples. In some cases they have been granted as *dar* or absolute grants to the grantee. According to Hindu usage such absolute gifts are not resumable in any circumstances by the grantor; but, in this district, they fall in to the parent estate, in default of male heirs of the original grantee.

251. *Mokarrari and thicca tenures.*—The *mokarrari* and *thicca* tenures require no special description; but even *mokarrari* tenures are, according to the custom of the district, usually resumable in default of male heirs. There are numbers of rent-free tenures.

252. *Incidents of tenures.*—It is impossible within the time or space at my disposal to discuss in detail the incidents of these various kinds of tenures. I propose, therefore, to discuss some salient points only.

The term *jagir* invariably connotes resumability, that is, the tenure lapses to the parent estate, in default of legitimate male heirs of the original grantee. This is also true of nearly all the other important tenures, which exist in the district. This condition is not always definitely stated in the deeds under which the jagirdar holds; but, if the tenure was originally a *jagir* grant from the Maharaja's estate, the custom is none the less certain. It appears that, previous to the permanent settlement, the Maharaja did in some cases exercise the right to resume these tenures at will; but in fact the power to resume such grants as existed at the time of the permanent settlement, without the consent of Government, was expressly taken away by the *patta* granted to Raja Dripnath Sahi, nor has the Maharaja since put forward any claim to resume them, except on failure of male heirs.

253. *Custom of primogeniture.*—*Jagir* tenures are also not partible. The law of primogeniture is the rule in the Maharaja's family. The eldest son, therefore, succeeds to the estate, the younger brothers being entitled only to maintenance grants. This custom has always regulated the succession to landed property among the various jagirdars and other tenure-holders, who are of the same family as the chief. Not only is this so, but nearly all the subordinate tenure-holders, who are not of the same family, have adopted the same custom of succession to the exclusion of the ordinary Hindu law of inheritance. Its prevalence is so marked that even members of the lower castes, who become land-owners, such as the Rautias and Kurmis, usually adopt it. The antiquity of the usage is proved by the fact that it was recognized by the Legislature as early as the year 1800. By Regulation X of that year, the provisions of Regulation XI of 1793, under which the estates of proprietors of land dying intestate were declared to be liable to be divided among the heirs of the deceased agreeably to the Hindu or Mahomedan laws, were declared to be inapplicable to the jungle mahals of Midnapore and other districts (see Appendix X). It was further enacted that

"the Regulation of 1793 shall not be considered to supersede or affect any established usage which may have obtained in the jungle mahals of Midnapore and other districts, by which the succession to landed estate invariably devolves to a single heir without the division of the property. In the mahals in question the local custom of the country shall be continued in full force, as heretofore, and the Courts of Justice shall be guided by it in the decision of all claims which may come before them to the inheritance of landed property situated in those mahals."

The opinion of all the officers of Government, who have studied the question, are unanimous on the subject. For instance, Colonel Dalton, the Commissioner of the Division, who spent 18 or 19 years in Chota Nagpur and

who made a special study of local usages, wrote in 1875, at the end of his period of residence in Ranchi:—

“The ordinary Hindu law does not apply to these estates (jagirs), as, by custom and under the provisions of a Regulation passed in 1800, primogeniture is *admittedly* the *lex loci*.” About the same time, Captain Lewis, who was manager of the Chota Nagpur estate, stated:—

“It is the custom in this district for property to descend to the eldest son alone, and none of the other sons have interest or share in the property beyond being granted some villages as maintenance. The Regulations regarding partition are, therefore, inapplicable to the district.”

Apart from these opinions expressed by experienced and competent officers, there are two other facts which appear to prove conclusively that primogeniture is the *lex loci*. The intelligent zamindars of the district who are not involved in litigation with their relatives, invariably state—at least this is my experience—that primogeniture is the custom, and that junior members of the family are entitled to maintenance grants only; and, secondly, the existing subdivisions of property show that in none of the jagir estates have the junior members of the family been in the past admitted to the status of co-sharers. Jagir grants have not as a matter of fact been partitioned in the past. If, as is sometimes now-a-days alleged, members of the family, who are descended from a common ancestor, are all co-sharers in the estate, women must also have succeeded frequently to their husband's share of the property. But even among families, the junior branches of which now allege their rights to shares, not a single instance of such succession can be proved. I take it that the existing divisions of property, as recorded and indeed admitted during the settlement operations, prove conclusively Colonel Dalton's dictum that “primogeniture is the *lex loci*.”

In a few cases of comparatively recent date, the decision of the Civil and Revenue Courts tend to foster the idea that primogeniture is not the customary law. The decisions, however, appear to be based on an imperfect appreciation of the local usage, which it is not always easy to prove to the satisfaction of the Courts, however certain and ancient it may be. Should this tendency continue, in another half century a system of succession, which is entirely opposed to local usage, will have been introduced, with the calamitous result that most of the ancient estates of the district will be sub-divided and in the end transferred piecemeal to money lenders and other interlopers.

254. Pseudo-jagirs.—It has been stated above that jagir grants are resumable in default of male heirs of the original grantee. It should be noted, however, that the tendency in the Maharaja's office has been to class all estates as *jagirs* without reference to their origin. There are some estates in the district generally owned or at all events founded by members of the primitive race of the country, which are as old or older than the Chota Nagpur chief's own estate.

255. The Silli estate.—I may note the case of the Silli estate. The ancestor of the present Tikait of Silli was, there is little doubt, an independent petty chief of a jungle mahal. In course of time he acknowledged the supremacy of the Chota Nagpur chief, and did homage in the feudal fashion. His estate was included in the Chota Nagpur estate at the time of the permanent settlement, and later on, when the necessity for feudal service disappeared, he agreed or was forced to pay a fixed rent to the Maharaja; his tenure is certainly not a jagir grant, nor is it, therefore, resumable in default of male heirs. Such pseudo jagirs are clearly not resumable by the Maharaja.

It is interesting to note that primogeniture, however, is the rule of succession in the Silli estate. The younger brothers are entitled to *korposh* grants only, which are also resumable in default of male heirs. The women of the family are entitled only to maintenance during their lifetime.

256. Khuntkatti and thicca tenures in Silli.—In addition to the tenures already described there are a few special tenures in thana Silli, which require some explanation. They are known as *khuntkatti* and *thicca* tenures. The Attestation Officer, Babu Satkouri Pati Roy, describes them as follows:—

“The *khuntkatti* tenure is generally held by Kurmis. I have found four such tenures in pargana Silli. In each case the family of the tenure-holder were the original founders of the village, and the tenure has continued to remain in the family's possession for some generations at a fixed rent. The term *khuntkatti* implies that there the tenure is permanent,

held at a fixed rent, and is transferable. The *thicca* tenure in this area (Silli) is peculiar. The incidents are more the result of the conduct of the parties than of contract. The tenures are heritable, in some cases they are held at a fixed rate of rent, in others the rent is variable, the amount varying with the proportion of cultivated land. I have some doubts whether they are transferable or not, though in two or three cases the manager of the estate has recognized the validity of the transfer; most of these *khunkatti* and *thicca* tenures belong to Kurmis and Majhis.

Primogeniture.—They all follow the law of primogeniture. The eldest son manages the estate, and the younger sons obtain *korposh* grants; in some cases the latter pay a quit-rent to the elder brother, but they continue to hold their *korposh* grants even if the estate is transferred by sale or otherwise alienated. But the *korposh* lands revert to the parent estate, in default of male heirs. I have found this to be the prevailing custom. In the case of village Nagdih, however, the younger brothers recently brought a suit in the Civil Court for partition of the estate. The family have held this village for four or five generations. In no case was the estate divided, though there were three or four brothers in each generation. I have nevertheless found that the Munsiff of Ranchi decided that the law of primogeniture does not prevail, and that all the brothers are entitled to equal shares. This appears to be the general practice of the Civil Courts presided over by officers obsessed with the ideas of property, which prevail in Bengal and Behar, where impartible estates are quite exceptional. In this jungle area, there is seldom an estate or tenure, except a few owned by upcountry men, which is partible. I may also note the case of Choke Siring, a village held by a Kurmi family for seven generations. For the first four generations, the eldest son succeeded. In the fifth generation, the brothers quarrelled, and civil suits were filed. The Tikait of Silli interfered and partitioned the estate between the two brothers, and the case was compromised in Court on this basis. In the sixth generation, they reverted to the old custom. The eldest son succeeded in each case to the father's property; and the younger brothers obtained *korposh* grants. Thus it is clear that the custom is certain. When an outside agency interferes it is sometimes changed; otherwise, it continues.

The custom of primogeniture also prevails in pargana Basantapur among the Kurmi families. They all say that the tenures cannot be split up. But, whenever a Kurmi family holds raiyati lands, all the sons succeed in equal shares. It appears therefore that the custom is not peculiar to the family, but that it is an incident of the tenure. As far as I can make out, the custom is due to the fact that these aboriginal tenure-holders have adopted the system of succession to tenures in vogue among the families, under whom they hold, in this case, the Tikait of Silli and the Raj of Padma."

257. *Area of khas villages of the Maharaja's Estate.*—An interesting feature in the history of tenures in this district is the progress of resumption by the Maharaja of the estates of his subordinate tenure-holders. Details of the numbers of villages found to be held khas by the Chota Nagpur estate with areas are given in the following table :—

Name of thana or outpost.	Number of villages held khas.	Area in square miles.	Name of thana or outpost.	Number of villages held khas.	Area in square miles.
Bano	6	17.17	Bero	27	44.43
Basia	8	18.49	Lohardaga	45	70.60
Kolebira	14	38.30	Kuru	6	13.82
Gumla	15	34.46	Burma	30	64.36
Raidih	17	42.99	Mandar	21	44.69
Ghaghra	29	54.22	Ranchi	57	77.64
Sisai	31	89.98	Ormanjhi	21	24.87
Palkot*	5	26.79	Angara†	6	14.48
Khunti	1	.83			
Karra†	15	17.77	Total	366	723.86
Lapung	12	27.97			

* Total for Gumla subdivision, 125 villages with an area of 322.40 square miles.

† " Khunti " 16 " " 18.6 "

‡ Ditto Sadar " 225 " " 382.86 "

At the time of Mr. Slacke's settlement (1885—88), the area of the khas estate was found to be 684 square miles. The khas area has, therefore, increased by nearly 40 square miles since that date, or by over 5 per cent.

CHAPTER VIII.

STATISTICS.

258. In the preceding chapters, several important statistical statements prepared during the settlement operations have been already discussed. It will, therefore, be necessary to discuss only some additional and important salient features here.

259. Total area of the district.—The total area of Ranchi district, as obtained from a summation of the area of the villages, is 7,103·59 square miles, or some 23 square miles less than the hitherto accepted area. The latter was, however, based on the topographical survey of the district, and, as the maps prepared by the topographical surveyors do not purport to give an exact delineation of boundaries—disputes are not entertained—the area found by summation of fields may be accepted as the correct one. The area of Gumla subdivision comprises 3,504 square miles, or about half the district. The area of Khunti subdivision is 1,545 square miles, or less than half that of Gumla.

260. Average size of thanas and villages.—There are 18 thanas with an average area of 394 square miles. If outposts are considered as separate units, the average area under a police jurisdiction is 253 square miles.

The largest thana area is that of Lohardaga; but the thana comprises two outposts, Kuru and Bero. The largest unit under one police jurisdiction is Kochedega with an area of 530 square miles; and the smallest unit is Ormanjhi outpost with an area of 88 square miles.

There are 3,954 villages in the district, with an average area of 1·8 square miles. The biggest village in the district is Taisar in thana Kurdeg. Its area is 25 square miles. There are numerous villages in the jungle areas with areas of about 10 square miles. The smallest village is Chhotabansi in Khunti thana with an area of nine acres only.

261. The statistical statements.—During the settlement operations, five main statements were compiled, which will be found printed in the appendices. They are:—

- (1) the *milan khasra* or *khasra* abstract, giving details regarding the cultivated and uncultivated area;
- (2) the crop statement, also compiled from the *khasra*;
- (3) the agricultural stock statement, written up for each village by the amin, during preliminary record-writing;
- (4) an abstract of the record-of-rights and rent compiled in the Settlement office, while the record is being prepared for final publication;
- (5) statistics of *zarpeshgis* and *bhugut bhandas* of raiyati, *bhuinhari*, and *khunkatti* tenancies, and of landlords' khas lands under cultivation.

262. The cropped area.—The table given below shows the net area under the most important crops in square miles:—

NAME OF SUBDIVISION.	RICE.				Urid.	Gondh.	Marua.	Surguja.	Mango groves pan, plantains, guavas, etc.	Others.	Area cropped more than once.	Net area (col- umns 5 to 11— 12).
	Bhadai area.	Aghani area and tewa.	Goraihan area.	Total area.								
Gumla ...	261	195	142	598	50	158	25	58	19	113	11	1,010
Sadar ...	316	141	143	590	65	70	73	46	17	68	12	917
Khunti ...	179	111	52	342	12	72	12	53	7	74	16	556
Total ...	756	447	327	1,530	127	300	110	157	43	255	39	2,483
Percentage to total net cropped area (column 13).	30·44	18·00	13·17	61·61	5·11	12·08	4·43	6·32	1·73	10·27	1·57	

Column 13 shows the net area which is cropped in any one year. As has been already explained in Chapter V, paragraph 138, it is the custom in several parts of the district to cultivate uplands not every year, but every two, three or even four years. The proper entries, showing the actual area cropped in any one year, were therefore obtained by dividing the total area of such fields by the number of years in the cycle of cultivation. Thus a field of 15 acres was found to have been cultivated once in three years.

The total cultivated area was shown as 15 acres; but the net cropped area of the field cropped was entered as five acres.

For further details, reference must be made to the statistical crop statement.

263. *Classes of land.*—The table given below shows the area of the various classes of land, subdivision by subdivision:—

Serial No.	SUBDIVISION.	Don I and II.		Don III and IV.		Tanr I.		Tanr II and III.		Uncultivated area.		Total.	
		A.	D.	A.	D.	A.	D.	A.	D.	A.	D.	A.	D.
1	Sadar ...	88,602	81	204,073	74	12,796	60	412,036	69	597,028	56	1,314,538	40
2	Gumla ...	124,736	61	169,170	25	18,293	08	744,750	69	1,185,857	20	2,242,807	83
3	Khunti ...	70,493	66	115,892	66	3,996	33	338,593	24	449,983	49	968,959	38
	GRAND TOTAL	283,833	08	489,136	65	45,086	01	1,495,380	62	2,232,869	25	4,543,805	61
	Area in square miles.	443		764		70		2,337		3,489		7,108	
	Percentage to total cultivated area.	12.1		21.1		2		64.7					

It will thus be seen that the total cultivated area is 3,614 square miles, or nearly 51 per cent. of the total district area; the uncultivated area is 3,489 miles in extent, or 49 per cent.

264. *Percentage of various classes of land in subdivisions.*—The table given below shows the percentage to total cultivated area of the various classes of land, subdivision by subdivision:—

NAME OF SUB-DIVISION.		Percentage of don I and II to total cultivated area.	Percentage of don III and IV to total cultivated area.	Percentage of tanr I to total cultivated area.	Percentage of tanr II and III to total cultivated area.
Sadar	...	12.4	28.4	1.8	57.4
Gumla	...	11.8	16.0	1.7	70.5
Khunti	...	13.1	21.5	2.6	62.8
District	...	12.2	21.1	2.0	64.7

265. *Total district outturn.*—From the statistics given above, it is possible to estimate with considerable accuracy the gross annual value of the produce of the district. The miscellaneous crops are, however, produced under such varying conditions that it is impossible to estimate their value for any one year. As all the cultivated lands of the district are capable of producing rice, the total rice-producing capacity of the cultivated area is a fair test of the annual value. On the basis of the crop-cutting experiments made by the officers of the Settlement department, the produce of an acre of each class of land in a normal year may be taken to be:—

Don I and II,	19	maunds of dhan, per acre.
" III and IV,	12	" " "
Tanr I,	8	" " "
" II and III,	3	" " "

In calculating the gross outturn of the class tanr II and III it is necessary to take into account the factor "cycle of cultivation." On the average, lands of this class are cultivated once in two years throughout the district. I have, therefore, divided the total gross outturn per acre by two in this case. I have also allowed a deduction of half a maund per acre to compensate for the greater proportion of the class tanr III. At present rates, the average value of a maund of dhan throughout the district may

be taken to be Re. 1-4. On these data, the table given below has been compiled :—

SUBDIVISION.	Area of <i>don</i> I and II in square miles.	Value of produce.	Area of <i>don</i> III and IV in square miles.	Value of produce.	Area of <i>tann</i> I in square miles.	Value of produce.	Area of <i>tann</i> II and III in square miles.	Value of produce.	Total.
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.	Rs.
Sadar ...	138	23,97,600	319	30,62,400	20	1,28,000	644	15,45,600	68,33,600
Gumla ...	195	29,64,000	264	25,34,400	28	1,79,200	1,164	27,93,600	84,71,200
Khunti ...	110	16,72,000	181	17,37,600	23	1,40,800	529	12,69,600	48,20,000
Total ...	443	67,33,600	764	73,34,400	70	4,48,000	2,387	56,08,800	2,01,24,800

It is probable that the value of some of the miscellaneous crops grown is somewhat greater than the value of rice would be. Rice is, however, grown on nearly 62 per cent. of the total net cropped area, and the value of crops such as *urid*, *gondli*, and *marua* closely approximates to the value of the rice which could be grown on the same fields. These latter three crops occupy nearly 22 per cent. of the net cropped area. The approximate gross annual value of the produce of the cultivated area may, therefore, be put down at Rs. 2,01,24,800. The gross annual produce of an acre is, therefore, on the average, only Rs. 8-11; but the value per acre varies, of course, enormously with the class of land.

266. *Total amount of rice produced.*—As the *bhadoi*, *aghani* and *tewa* rice is produced almost exclusively on *don* fields, and the *goradhan* on the better kinds of *tann* fields, a fairly correct estimate of the total actual produce of rice may be obtained on the basis of 14 maunds of *dhan* per acre *don*, and 7 maunds per acre *tann* (net cropped). The total amount of *dhan* produced in a normal year calculated on this basis is 12,243,840 maunds, or 6,121,920 maunds of rice. Assuming that the average amount of rice consumed per head of population is only one-half seer per day, the total amount of rice consumed in the district is 5,419,885 maunds, equivalent to 10,839,770 maunds of *dhan*. Allowing 900,000 maunds for seed, at a rate of somewhat less than a maund per acre, the total amount of grain required for food and seed requirements is 11,739,770 maunds. There is thus only 504,070 maunds of *dhan*, or 252,035 maunds, or 9,001 tons of rice available for export.

267. *Area held by raiyats.*—The table given below shows the area of lands held by occupancy and non-occupancy raiyats, the total rental paid by them, and the incidence of the rent per cultivated acre subdivision by subdivision :—

	Settled raiyats and occupancy raiyats including raiyats holding at fixed rates.			Non-occupancy raiyats.			Total area held by both classes	Total rent.	Incidence of rent per cultivated acre.
	Culti-vated.	Unculti-vated.	Rent.	Culti-vated.	Unculti-vated.	Rent.			
			Rs.			Rs.		Rs.	As.
Sadar ...	820	44	3,31,895	31	3	14,801	898	3,46,696	10
Gumla ...	1,194	51	2,61,683	142	5	38,225	1,392	2,99,908	■
Khunti ...	455	27	96,534	50	4	21,140	536	1,17,674	5
Total ...	2,469	122	6,90,112	223	12	74,166	2,826	7,64,278	6
Percentage to total cultivated area.	68.32	...	...	6.17	...	...	...	...	...

268. *Incidence of rent.*—The total rent paid by raiyats of both classes is Rs. 7,64,278. If we add to this the total rent paid by the various classes of *khuntkatidars* and *bhuinhars*, which may be estimated to be approximately Rs. 10,000, the total rental of all cultivating tenancies in the district is Rs. 7,74,278. Produce rents are excluded from the calculation.

The statistics regarding non-occupancy raiyats are somewhat misleading. After the introduction of the principle of the settled raiyat, a large percentage of the non-occupancy raiyats, who were recorded during the first five years of the settlement operations, have acquired occupancy rights, that is, since the period when the statistics were prepared. The number of non-occupancy raiyats is, therefore, now insignificant. As will also be seen from the statistical statements in the appendices, the area of lands held at fixed rents is only eight square miles, and, as a matter of fact, during the last two years of the operations no separate statistics for this class of holdings were prepared. They were shown as included in the returns for occupancy holdings, there being no special provisions in the Chota Nagpur Tenancy Act regulating the status of such raiyats.

The percentage of the cultivated lands of the district occupied by occupancy and non-occupancy raiyats is 74·5. Assuming that the various classes of cultivated lands are to be found in normal proportions in these tenancies, the total gross value of the agricultural produce of the lands occupied by these raiyats, according to the data given above, is Rs. 1,49,92,976. From a study of the statistics it appears that the distribution of *don* and *tanr* lands in these cultivating tenancies is nearly normal; but it is well known that the landlords of the district often appropriate as *khas*, lands which are specially fertile or are favourably situated for cultivation. Deducting 10 per cent., which appears to be a liberal allowance for this factor, the total gross value of the annual agricultural produce of the lands still comes to Rs. 1,34,93,678. A similar result is obtained by calculating the average produce of the *don* and *tanr* included in these tenancies, at the average rates of outturn.

The table given below shows the result:—

Total <i>don</i> in square miles.	Total <i>tanr</i> in square miles.	Value of produce of <i>don</i> in rupees.	Value of produce of <i>tanr</i> in rupees.	Total value in rupees.
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
828	1,863	92,73,600	44,71,200	1,37,44,800

The gross rental of the lands occupied by these two classes of raiyats is, therefore, in the aggregate, only about one-eighteenth of the value of the agricultural produce in a normal year. This seems a very small proportion. But the following factors have to be considered. The district is peculiarly liable to recurrent periods of crop failure, whenever the rainfall, on which the prosperity of the crops almost entirely depends, is not distributed seasonably. In a bad year, it is no exaggeration to say that the produce of the *chaura* lands, in which may be included all the lands classed as *don* IV and portion of the lands classed as *don* III, is reduced by 50 per cent. A similar or greater reduction is inevitable in the case of all classes of uplands. The failure of the crops grown on the better classes of *don* is not nearly so great; but it is considerable. The lands occupied by these classes of raiyats also include privileged tenancies such as *korkar*, which, by the custom of the country, are held rent-free for three or four years, and at half ordinary rates in perpetuity. We are, however, forced to the conclusion that the average incidence of rent throughout the district is not heavy. The disputes about rent are, therefore, due rather to the arbitrary and illegal manner in which the charges have been increased and to their unequal distribution than to the heaviness of the burden.

239. *Percentage of den and tanr to total area.*—The table given below shows the percentages of lowlands, uplands, and uncultivated to the total area of the district, subdivision by subdivision. The areas are shown in square miles:—

SUBDIVISION.	Area.	Area of lowlands (den).	Percentage to total area.	Area of uplands (tanr).	Percentage to total area.	Uncultivated area.	Percentage to total area.
Sadar ...	2,054	457	22	664	32	933	46
Gumla ...	3,504	459	13	1,192	34	1,853	53
Khunti ...	1,545	291	19	551	35	703	45
Total ...	7,103	1,207	17	2,407	34	3,489	49

The percentage of lowlands is lowest in Gumla, and highest in the Sadar subdivision. Gumla has also the highest percentage of uncultivated area, and it is somewhat remarkable that the Sadar and Khunti subdivisions are almost on a level in this respect.

270. *Areas occupied by different classes of tenants.*—The table given below shows the areas in square miles occupied by different classes of tenants:—

NAME OF SUBDIVISION.	Area.	Area of landlords' khas and privileged lands of all kinds.	Area of lands held by settled raiyats and occupancy raiyats on money rent, including lands held at fixed rents.	Area of lands held by non-occupancy raiyats on money-rent.	Area of land held on produce-rents by raiyats.	Area of <i>bhuinhari</i> lands [Act II (B. C.) of 1869], including waste.	Area of <i>Mundari khunt-katti</i> lands excluding jungle and waste in contact <i>Mundari khunt-katti</i> villages.	Area of <i>khuntkatti</i> lands including waste.	Area of lands held rent-free (<i>muff</i>), including waste.
Sadar ...	2,054	119	864	34	28	103	2	7	23
Gumla ...	3,504	206	1,245	147	15	64	9	1	26
Khunti ...	1,545	81	482	54	13	49	188	7	7
Total ..	7,103	405	2,591	235	56	216	199	15	56
Percentage to total area of the district.	...	5.70	36.49	3.30	.79	3.04	2.80	.21	.79

The lands included in the return are all cultivated, except 134 square miles held by occupancy and non-occupancy raiyats, and a few acres held rent-free. The remaining area of the district, which consists of jungle and waste, is held by the landlords, and the *Mundari khuntkattidars*. A few thousand acres of jungle and waste are included in the *bhuinhari* and *khuntkatti* tenancies. The area of the jungle and the waste held by the two important classes of landlords and *Mundari khuntkattidars* amounts to 48 per cent. of the total district area.

271. *Cultivated, cultivable, and non-cultivable areas.*—The table below shows the area under cultivation, the cultivable, and non-cultivable area, with other details. The areas are given in square miles:—

SUBDIVISION.	Area.	Area under cultivation.	Current fallow.	Old fallow.	Culturable jungle.	Other cultivable area.	Total cultivable area not under cultivation.	Non-culturable jungle.	Other non-culturable area.	Total non-culturable area.	Total.
Sadar ...	2,054	1,121	■	96	198	20	317	422	196	618	2,054
Gumla ...	3,504	1,651	4	112	485	47	648	870	335	1,205	3,504
Khunti ...	1,545	842	■	95	200	24	328	100	275	375	1,545
Total ..	7,103	3,614	10	303	889	91	1,293	1,392	806	2,198	7,103
Percentage to total area of the district.	...	50.88	.14	4.26	12.51	1.28	18.20	19.59	11.32	30.94	...

All fields, which have been left uncultivated for a period of three years and upwards, are classed as "old fallow;" but "old fallow" does not include uplands, which are left fallow for a period of three years or more, with the object of allowing the soil to recuperate. The latter are classed as cultivated (*vide* Chapter IV, paragraph 138). All fields, which have not been cropped in the year of survey, but which have been cropped within three years, are classed as "current fallow;" but "current fallow" does not include the class of uplands above referred to. "Old fallow" practically includes all lands, the cultivation of which has been definitely abandoned for at least three years, the intention being not to resume the cultivation. "Current fallow" includes lands which have been similarly abandoned for a period of less than three years.

The "other non-cultivable area" includes house sites, burning and burial grounds, threshing floors, tanks, rivers, roads, etc. The total non-cultivable area is 2,198 square miles, or nearly 31 per cent. of the district area. The total area, which can still be made to yield crops and which is not cultivated at present, amounts to 1,293 square miles, or only 18 per cent. The margin still available for reclamation is, therefore, already becoming small. When this margin has been completely reclaimed, the problem of the increase in the population will become acute, unless the methods of cultivation are greatly improved. Assuming the continuance of present conditions, the district can carry an additional population of about 400,000, when this area is completely cleared and improved. I assume, as appears to be the case, that the area under cultivation is not capable of supporting a population in excess of what it carries at present.

272. Average size of cultivating tenancies.—No exact data are available for calculating the average area of cultivating tenancies. With the help of the census returns, it is, however, possible to arrive at approximately correct conclusions. As the uncultivated area held by raiyats is almost entirely unproductive, it may be left out of the account.

The area of the cultivated land occupied by the various classes of cultivators, excluding landlords, are as follows:—

			Square miles.
Settled raiyats and occupancy raiyats	...	...	2,469
Non-occupancy raiyats	...	...	223
<i>Bhuihars</i>	...	...	2·3
Mundari <i>khuntkattidars</i>	...	...	183
Other <i>khuntkattidars</i>	...	...	14
Raiyats holding rent-free	...	...	56
Raiyats holding on produce rents	...	...	56
Total	...	...	3,209

The agricultural population of the district is divided into rent-payers, rent-receivers, labourers, and miscellaneous. The last of these classes includes persons who do not depend solely on agriculture for subsistence. I include these, but as a set off I exclude the agricultural labourers, some of whom are not landless. The total number of cultivators, for the purposes of this calculation, may be taken to be 910,561, divided into 171,804 families. The rent-payers, who number 885,073, include under-raiyats; but the latter are insignificant in numbers, and may therefore be disregarded. On this basis the average holding of a cultivator is 12 acres. Assuming that the tenancy comprises *don* and *tanr* in normal proportions, 33 and 67 per cent., respectively, the average holding consists of 4 acres of *don* and 8 acres of *tanr*.

Assuming that a cultivator's family consists of 5·3 persons, which, according to the census figures, is the average, and that each member requires half a seer of rice per day for sustenance, the total consumption of rice per family comes to 24 maunds of rice, or 48 maunds of *dhan* per annum. The total produce of an average holding, on the basis of the calculations made above, is 80 maunds of *dhan* only. Allowing for home consumption, which has been calculated on a very moderate scale, their remain only 32 maunds of *dhan*.

Out of this, the cultivator must set aside about 6 maunds for seed, and there remain only 26 maunds, from the sale price of which he must pay his rent, and purchase necessities, including clothes, salt, tobacco, etc. The market value of 26 maunds of *dhan* is about Rs. 32·8. We have seen above

that the rent charges of ordinary raiyats' holdings are equivalent to only one-eighteenth of the gross value of the produce; but when the cost of the immediate necessities of life are deducted, it appears that the available margin, out of which this charge should be paid, is extremely small and that in bad years it vanishes altogether. There are, no doubt, some supplementary sources of income. The raiyats usually keep some poultry, goats, sheep, cattle, and pigs. One or two members of the family sometimes work as labourers or emigrate to Assam or the Duars, and portion of these earnings goes to the support of the family. The cattle, sheep, and goats graze in the village jungles and waste lands. Fuel and wood for domestic purposes are usually obtained free from the jungles. Lac is also profitable, wherever it is cultivated. But from whatever point of view the statistics are looked at, the margin for luxuries and for payment of the rent is small, and, as a matter of fact, the latter is frequently paid not from the proceeds of the cultivated land, but from the wages of labour and the sale of an occasional bullock or a few sheep, which the cultivator has managed to rear.

273. Subsistence holdings.—The area of a bare subsistence holding, which I define to mean a holding, which produces sufficient rice in a normal year to feed an average family *plus* a few rupees for clothes, salt, and tobacco, is 9 acres, or 3 acres of *don* and 6 of *tanr*. Of course, the area varies with the relative proportions of *don* and *tanr*. A holding consisting of $4\frac{1}{4}$ acres of *don* or 20 acres of *tanr* is a subsistence holding. I assume in all cases that the holding comprises the different classes of *don* and *tanr* in normal proportions. The total gross produce of an ordinary holding may be obtained by multiplying the area of each class of land by the factor which represents the average outturn of the class, *i.e.*, beginning with *don* II, by 19, 15, 9, 8, 4 and 2 for the six classes in which the whole cultivated area has been classified. I omit the class *don* I, as the area is quite insignificant (1.18 square miles for the whole district). In those portions of the district in which *tanr* lands are usually cultivated every year, the factors representing the value of the classes *tanr* II and *tanr* III will be 8 and 4 instead of 4 and 2; and, where these lands are usually cultivated once only in every three or more years, the factors must be diminished accordingly (see paragraph 138, Chapter IV.)

274. Uneconomic holdings.—As a matter of common experience, it is well known that enormous numbers of raiyati holdings in the district barely exceed the subsistence limit, and that the rents are paid not from the profits of the holdings, but from the wages derived from extraneous employments, some of them unconnected with agriculture. All such holdings are uneconomic as far as rent is concerned. The tenants really derive no benefit from a rise in the price of the staple crops, the whole of the produce of the land being devoted to home consumption. Theoretically, of course, it may be argued that it is the raiyat's own concern if he elects to live on a bare subsistence holding, and that the landlord's rent ought not, therefore, to be affected by these considerations. In practice, however, it is impossible for large bodies of cultivators or members of their families to obtain continuous employment in the villages at anything like fair rates, and the only alternative is emigration. It is, in fact, the existence of such large numbers of uneconomic holdings, combined with the impossibility of obtaining continuous employment in the villages at fair rates, which mainly accounts for the enormous emigration from the district to Assam, the Duars, and other parts of the province.

275. Capacity to resist famine.—From the foregoing considerations, it will appear that the capacity of the cultivators to tide over periods of stress, engendered by a partial failure of the crops, is small indeed. There are, however, other factors to be considered besides the total value of the crops. The aborigines and the low caste Hindus, who spring from the same race, are remarkable for their physical hardihood. They can, therefore, subsist in conditions in which members of the more civilized races could not exist. When the crops fail, the jungle fruits and vegetables of all kinds (*sag*) are a valuable reserve. With the help of these, the remnants of the crops, and the assistance given by Government, they succeed in tiding over periods of stress, which would play havoc with the people of Bengal proper.

276. Irrigation.—Irrigation is rarely practised in the district; nor are the immense facilities, which exist in the numerous rivers and streams which intersect the country, turned to any account. For instance, in thana Ghaghra

out of 120 villages there are irrigation *bandhs* in only three villages, viz., one at Jamgain, which is a Government estate, one at Chama, the landlord of which is a legal practitioner, and one at Loadag, the landlord of which is an intelligent money lender. The attestation officer reports that these three villages did not suffer from the prevailing distress in 1907-08, and numerous *rabi* crops are grown. In Lohardaga town and a few other places, the Koiris practise a system of irrigation from shallow wells for the production of garden vegetables, especially potatoes. In the village of Borea near Ranchi, 212 wells of this kind were found to exist. A small number of tanks exist; but the water is generally used for drinking and bathing purposes, and not for irrigation, except in exceptionally dry seasons. The few exceptions only tend to emphasise the general dearth of irrigation. The extension of a simple and inexpensive system of irrigation seems to be the most important agricultural problem, if the district is to be saved from constantly recurring periods of distress or famine. The undulating character of the country would appear to render the construction of *bandhs* and embankments a simple matter, and, by the judicious expenditure of small capital, several of the streams could also be utilized. Something has been done under the system of land improvement loans; but their scope is limited, and the Assistant Settlement Officers report that most of money is applied to objects for which it was not intended. Until the landlords and raiyats are induced to co-operate and work a system of their own, very little improvement can be expected. The statistics of irrigation are given in the table below. They include only fields, which are regularly irrigated every year from wells, tanks, etc., specially constructed for the purpose:—

SUB-DIVISION.	Irrigated area in acres.	IRRIGATED FROM—				CROPS IRRIGATED.			NUMBER OF WELLS.	
		Wells.	Private canals.	Tanks and <i>ahars</i> .	Other sources.	Rice.	Wheat.	Others.	Masonry.	Barthen.
Sadar ...	292.82	261.83	...	11.55	19.44	55.08	9.05	228.69	608	363
Gumla ...	1,932.05	1,847.10	5.52	34.91	44.52	51.41	15.10	1,865.64	2,907	4,076
Khunti ...	833.39	147.23	...	292.58	393.28	409.79	40.27	383.33	130	432
Total ...	3,058.26	2,256.16	5.52	339.34	457.24	516.28	64.42	3,477.66	3,645	4,871

277. *Exports and imports.*—It is very difficult to obtain any reliable statistics showing in the amount of export and import from, and into the district. Since the Ranchi-Purulia Railway was opened, Ranchi railway station has, however, become the distributing and exporting centre for more than three-fourths of the district, and it is, therefore, possible to estimate roughly the volume of trade from the railway statistics. In the year 1908, the items of rail-borne export and import were as follows:—

Commodities exported.		Maunds.	Commodities imported.		Maunds.
Bones ...	...	9,359	Rice ...	...	143,655
Hides and skins ...	...	18,229	Sugar and molasses ...	...	37,224
Lac ...	...	39,351	Grains ...	...	47,270
Oilseeds ...	...	13,508	Coal ...	...	23,476
Rice ...	...	47,050	Iron ...	...	11,802
Other kinds of grain ...	...	9,408	Indian piece-goods ...	...	27,906
Tamarind ...	...	1,199	English piece-goods ...	...	4,196
Timber ...	...	1,606	Tobacco ...	...	9,590
Other commodities ...	...	1,283	Salt ...	...	84,970
			Kerosine oil ...	...	21,176
			Wheat ...	...	8,680
			Other commodities ...	...	137,769
Total ...	...	140,993	Total ...	...	557,714

It may be assumed that these figures represent about three-fourths of the total import and export with the exception of timber. In the year 1908, the

rice crop was a partial failure. The figures for export and import of rice do not, therefore, represent the normal state of affairs. It has been already shown that the total amount of rice available for export cannot reasonably exceed 252,035 maunds, and, from whatever point of view the statistics are considered, the balance of trade is heavily against the district. The only important items of agricultural produce, which are exported, are rice, lac, and oilseeds. It thus appears that the miscellaneous food-crops, *gondli*, *marua*, wheat, and vegetables are consumed by the inhabitants of the district. The *gondli* and *marua* crops are a partial substitute for rice in the poorest families for two or three months every year, and an additional amount of rice is thus set free for exportation. But it is doubtful, whether the net annual export of rice ever exceeds 300,000 maunds.

278. Mortgages and *bhugut bandhas*.—Restrictions on the transfer of raiyati holdings were introduced in the Tenancy Amending Act of 1903, the object being to stop the sale of raiyati holdings by improvident raiyats and to restrict all forms of mortgage and thereby save the aboriginal population from becoming the serfs of money-lenders.

The restrictions are contained in section 46 of the present Tenancy Act. Transfers by raiyats of their rights in their holdings for any period exceeding five years are prohibited; but a raiyat may enter into a *bhugut bandha* mortgage of his holding for any period not exceeding seven years. "*Bhugut bandha* mortgage" is defined in the Act itself. The restrictions on the transfer of Mundari *khunkatti* tenancies are similar, and the provisions of section 46 were made applicable to *bhuinhari* tenures in 1908. From the commencement of the settlement operations, statistics were prepared showing the extent to which all cultivated lands, whether held by tenure-holders, tenants, or raiyats, are sublet under mortgage leases, mortgages or *bhugut bandhas* entered into after the passing of the Act being shown separately. The statistics, thana by thana, are printed in the appendices. No record of sales was kept, save in those cases, in which a sale had been made, but no mutation had been effected in the landlord's office. The statement given below shows the details of ordinary mortgages and *bhuguts* of raiyati holdings :—

NAME OF SUBDIVISION.	BEFORE THE PASSING OF THE ACT (1903).								AFTER THE PASSING OF THE ACT (1903).							
	Mortgaged.				Sublet in <i>Bhugut</i> .				Mortgaged.				Sublet in <i>Bhugut</i> .			
	Area.		Amount advanced per acre.		Area.		Amount advanced per acre.		Area.		Amount advanced per acre.		Area.		Amount advanced per acre.	
	Don.	Tanr.	Don.	Tanr.	Don.	Tanr.	Don.	Tanr.	Don.	Tanr.	Don.	Tanr.	Don.	Tanr.	Don.	Tanr.
Khunti	Acres.	Acres.	Rs. A.	Rs. A.	Acres.	Acres.	Rs. A.	Rs. A.	Acres.	Acres.	Rs. A.	Rs. A.	Acres.	Acres.	Rs. A.	Rs. A.
Gumla	3,643	1,740	22 0	5 8	217	81	5	1 4	6	13 0	27 0	6 8	8	13	5 8	1 4
Sadar	1,235	877	31 8	8 0	82	80	8	2 0	563	362	27 0	6 8	17	...	5 0	...
	4,847	2,315	55 0	14 0	16	9	77	19 0	4,542	1,923	66 0	16 8	...	...	...	...
Total for the district.	9,725	4,932	39 4	10 0	315	170	10	2 8	5,111	2,285	61 4	15 4	...	13	5 0	1 4

The statistics (after the passing of the Act) for Khunti subdivision were compiled in 1903-04. This accounts for the apparent smallness of the area.

The total area of cultivated lands affected by mortgages of both kinds is 35 square miles, or only 1·2 per cent. of the land cultivated by raiyats. The total recorded indebtedness amounts to Rs. 7,83,141. The number of *bhugut bandha* mortgages is insignificant.

279. Value of the security.—The statistics given above have been calculated on the assumption that *don* lands are four times as valuable as *tanr* on the average. The average amount advanced per acre *don* and *tanr* on this basis was, before the passing of the amending Act of 1903, Rs. 39·4 and Rs. 10 respectively. It is noticeable that the average value of the security on mortgages, instead of diminishing since the restrictions on transfer were imposed, has increased considerably. The security value of *don* lands has in fact risen from Rs. 39·4 to Rs. 61·4 per acre. This enormous increase in value is partly due no doubt to the great increase in the value of land during the last seven years in the Sadar subdivision of the district. But this is only a partial explanation, and the real fact is that the money-lenders do not consider the value of the security afforded by a mortgage

of a raiyati holding for a period of five years less than the value of a mortgage on the same holding for an indefinite period, until, for instance, the loan is repaid. If the mortgagor demands to be put in possession after the expiration of the term, the money-lender can still proceed to recover the loan by taking out processes against his moveable property including crops. As a matter of fact, experience has hitherto shown that the raiyat never does demand to be put in possession. He is entirely at the mercy of the money-lender, and he usually executes a mortgage for a second period of five years. The letter of the law is thus complied with, but practically the mortgage becomes permanent.

280. Restrictions on transfer a partial failure.—It is yet too early to pass verdict on the effects of the restrictions on transfer. It must be confessed, so far as the evidence at present available goes, that the objects, which the framers of the law had in view, have not been fulfilled. The money-lenders have begun to systematically evade the law, and the raiyats, owing to their dependent position, are forced to comply with their wishes. It is certain, however, that the number of mortgages of raiyati holdings has somewhat decreased.

281. Other mortgages.—In addition to the mortgages on raiyati holdings, a record was prepared of all mortgages of cultivated lands, owned by tenure-holders, including *bhuinhars*, and Mundari *khuntkattidars*. The total area mortgaged by these classes was found to be 43 square miles, or over 5 per cent. of the land cultivated by them. Separate statistics for the three classes are not available; but it is probable that mortgages by *bhuinhars* and Mundari *khuntkattidars*, especially the former, account for half the total.

The total indebtedness of these three classes amounts to Rs. 10,16,087. The security value of ordinary mortgages on this class of land (excluding *bhugut bandhas*) works out at Rs. 50 per acre *don*, as against Rs. 39-4 for raiyati lands before the passing of the amending Act of 1903, and Rs. 61-4 after that date, or Rs. 47 per acre for both periods.

282. Transfers of tenures and holdings.—No statistics are available to show the complete transfers of tenures and holdings. Transfers of holdings by sale are now prohibited by law; but the law is partially inoperative at least in the Sadar subdivision.

The *modus operandi* of the money-lenders in the neighbourhood of Ranchi is thus described by one Assistant Settlement Officer, Babu Rama Lal Barma, Deputy Collector:—

“The *mahajans* get *zarpeshgi* deeds executed by the raiyats without registering the documents, and take possession of the lands so mortgaged. After a few years, they pay *salami* to the landlord and get their names registered as raiyats of the holdings. When the raiyats are able to pay back the consideration, the *mahajans* take their stand on their alleged status as raiyats, suppressing the *zarpeshgi* deeds which are in their possession. The raiyats are thus unable to prove that the holdings belong to them, as they are out of possession, and they lose their lands for ever.”

As the record-of-rights has now been prepared, it will, however, be difficult for the money-lenders in future to practise this sort of chicanery.

The raiyats are not the only classes who are exploited by the money-lenders. Mr. H. McPherson, Assistant Settlement Officer, gives the following account of the state of affairs in thana Mandar.—

“Transfers of land in this area are numerous, both raiyats and landlords having mortgaged their interests to carry on litigation. The *bhuinhars* have also sold most of their *bhuinhari* lands, and the landlords have lost whole villages. The latter frequently mortgage a village or two to money-lenders. The money-lender arranges to pay the rent and cesses to the superior landlord, but after a year or two intentionally makes defaults in payment. A suit for arrears of rent and cesses follows, and the village is sold and bought in *benami*, free of all encumbrances, through some relative, by the money-lender, and the old landlord has in reality no remedy.”

283. The present condition of the district.—The present condition of Ranchi, as disclosed in the statistics discussed above, may be summarised as follows:—

About four-fifths of the total population are dependent on agriculture for subsistence. The majority of these are aborigines by race. The system of cultivation is primitive, and the soil is poor. Irrigation is neglected, manuring is practised only to a limited extent on uplands. The aborigines of the country are still one of the most backward races in India. They are thriftless and indolent by nature, though physically hardy; and only the pinch of poverty drives them to undertake any sustained employment. The consequences

are that we have a large population of about 900,000 persons, who scrape out of the soil just sufficient to keep body and soul together. The rent charges are but a small fraction of the gross value of the produce; but, when the needs of mere subsistence are considered, there is hardly any margin out of which to pay them, and, as a matter of fact, the majority of the cultivators pay these charges or part of them out of extraneous sources of income. Wherever lac is cultivated, it is a considerable asset. There is little or no margin for luxuries, and, as a matter of fact, the cultivators rarely indulge in any except strong liquor. Notwithstanding the slender character of their resources, the cultivators have been in the past exploited by money-lenders and by a minority of their landlords. The cost of litigation has been also a heavy burden. It is sometimes said that the flourishing condition of the excise revenue proves that the cultivators cannot be so impoverished as they have been often represented to be. The argument, however, appears to be based on a misapprehension. The total expenditure on liquor, though considerable in the aggregate—it can hardly exceed 15 lakhs of rupees per annum—does not amount to more than one rupee eight annas per head of the population, or Rs. 7-8 per family per annum. As this is their only luxury, we may safely put aside as unreasonable the argument of those economists, who see in the drink traffic the cause of all the economic evils which prevail in the district. A population so circumstanced must be subject to recurring periods of stress or famine in abnormal years. Their real assets are their physical hardihood and primitive civilization, which enable them to tide over periods of stress, which would partially wipe out more advanced races. Emigration, with prospects of good earnings, which can be obtained in the tea gardens of Assam and the Duars and elsewhere, is an important safety valve. It should therefore be encouraged, until the economic condition of the inhabitants of the district has greatly improved.

284. Remedies.—There are three means by which the economic conditions of the people may be improved, viz., an improvement in the system of agriculture, an extension of the area under cultivation, and the development of irrigation. By any of these means provision can be made to meet emergencies. It would probably take a long period to effect any permanent improvement in the system of cultivation. The area under cultivation is being already extended by the necessary process of clearing culturable jungle; but the extension does not keep pace with the increase in the population. The third is beyond doubt the most feasible remedy. By a system of local co-operation the natural facilities, which the country affords, can be used for irrigation purposes, and the stock of food-stuffs thereby enormously increased. Such a system already exists in embryo in Dhalbhum pargana in Singhbhum district; and the local authorities in Ranchi with the help of the missionaries and intelligent and public-spirited landlords could, I think, do a good deal to develop such a system, now that the relations of landlords and tenants have been settled on a satisfactory basis, and the attention of both can be directed to the necessity of developing the resources of the land. Few of the landlords have sufficient capital to undertake such schemes; but there is nothing to prevent the raiyats themselves from co-operating and giving their labour free for the erection of *bandhs*, tanks, and embankments, provided they had the requisite guarantees that they would be permitted to utilize them for the benefit of their lands free of cost.

285. Cost of the Survey and Settlement operations.—The total cost of the survey and settlement operations is shown in the table given below:—

HEAD.	Total expenditure net.	Cost rate per square mile.
	Rs.	Rs.
Traverse	2,36,967	33
Cadastral survey and kharapuri ...	7,09,978	100
Settlement branch	6,63,006	97
	(actual expenditure to 1st January 1911).	
Estimated net cost to complete all operations.	25,000	
Total	16,34,951	230

The operations have been completed with the exception of settlement of fair rents, case work, and recovery operations in parts of the last two seasons areas. The cost of the fair rent settlement and case work will, no doubt, be completely covered by the court fees filed in the suits and applications. I have estimated that a net amount of Rs. 25,000 will cover the cost of all remaining operations. The cost will probably be less.

286. Original estimates.—The total cost of the operations was originally estimated at Rs. 20,65,737. It will thus be seen that the operations will have cost over four lakhs of rupees less than the original estimate.

287. Cost per acre.—The cost per acre comes to 5 annas and 9 pies only which is a very low average rate.

288. Apportionment of cost.—In view of the known poverty of the inhabitants of the district and the administrative necessity of the operations, the Government of India undertook to bear an unusual proportion of the cost. They accordingly remitted the charges debitable to the operations under the head "contribution to leave and pension allowances of gazetted officers," for the period of their deputation to settlement work in the district, and in addition to the one-fourth share of the cost, which is usually borne by Imperial Revenues in the case of district settlement operations, they further finally agreed that any deficit in the total amount of costs realizable from the landlords and tenants should be debited to Imperial Revenues up to a margin of $2\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs of rupees. This latter proposal was sanctioned by the Secretary of State in his despatch, Revenue No. 106, dated the 5th July, 1907.

289. Apportionment order.—It was assumed that the cost of the operations would not exceed 6 annas per acre.

It was found necessary to impose various rates for the different classes of soil, but it was hoped that the total amount recovered would approximate to an average of nearly 6 annas per acre. The first apportionment order was issued in May, 1905 (Board of Revenue's letter, No. 201A., dated the 14th May, 1905 to the Commissioner of the Chota Nagpur Division), and the recovery rates were fixed as follows:—

Rupee one and eight annas per acre	for first and second class rice lands (<i>don</i>).
Rupee one	" " " third and fourth class rice lands.
Four annas	" " " first class uplands.
One anna	" " " second and third class uplands.
Three pies	" " " all uncultivated and waste lands.

Ordinary cultivating raiyats were to pay half the costs assessed at these rates and the landlords the other half. The recovery operations have been conducted up to date on these principles. It had been recognized, however, for some years that, notwithstanding the small cost of the operations, the collection of costs at these rates would result in a deficit, and it was at one time proposed to raise the rates slightly in order to recoup this amount. It was, however, finally thought inadvisable to increase the recovery rates in the remaining one-third of the district, and the recovery operations will therefore show a deficit.

290. Results.—After deduction of the Government share, the total amount to be recovered from landlords and tenants amounts to Rs. 12,26,213. Of this, a sum of Rs. 6,45,349 has been recovered up to date. The estimated future recovery demands, which are no doubt very close to the actuals, are Rs. 4,40,000. There will thus be a deficit of about Rs. 1,40,000. The margin of deficit allowed by the Secretary of State's despatch is $2\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs.

291. Recoveries.—The recovery operations have now been in progress for five years. It is satisfactory to note that the total demand has been collected from the landlords and tenants, and no remissions have been made. During the last two years, however, some certificates had to be filed against a few of the landlords. The ease with which the demands have been paid—they were extremely light, when distributed over so large an area—would seem to indicate that it would have been possible to realize the total expenditure without much hardship to the residents of the district.

CHAPTER IX.

JUNGLES AND TREES. RECLAMATION RIGHTS.

292. Before discussing customary rights in jungle, it is necessary to recapitulate briefly the history of the agrarian development of the district. It will then be possible to estimate the reasonableness of the existing customary rights in jungle, and to discuss proposed restrictions to check deforestation. The aboriginal tribes, who settled in the country, took possession of it at a period when it consisted for the most part of virgin jungle. They cleared a portion of the lands and settled down to live as village communities, each community owning a more or less defined tract of territory. In course of time, they elected a feudal Chief, the ancestors of the present Maharaja, to whom they agreed to pay a small tribute or to render slight services. At subsequent periods other minor Chiefs were elected or imposed their supremacy, and received similar tributes or services from their immediate vassals. We have seen how these Chiefs in time became Hinduized, and introduced a number of Hindus with their followers into the country, to whom they gave grants of land on liberal terms.

These Hindu adventurers did not conquer the country. The grants made to them were merely alienations of the right of the Chiefs, and in no way entitled them to interfere in the existing village economy. As their numbers increased, they, however, imposed additional charges of all kinds, which their superior organization enabled them to enforce. When British dominion was established, by the imperceptible operation of the decisions of the Courts, they came to be recognized as the landlords of the country, and the rightful owners of the soil. With regard to the jungle area, however, there were few disputes. It was the interest of everyone to clear as much of the land as possible. Jungle trees possessed hardly any economic value, save for fuel and domestic purposes, and there was more than enough for everybody. The villagers, therefore, were not interfered with. They reclaimed what lands they pleased and used up as much timber as they cared to fell. It is only within a comparatively recent period that the jungle question arose. With the increase in the population, the multiplication of tenures, and the opening up of the country by roads, and later by railways, the forest area began to disappear and the timber became a marketable commodity. The landlords only then began to press their rights as proprietors. The Courts admitted them as a matter of course. It did not occur to the village communities to exploit the jungles for profit by the sale of trees, nor even to contest in the Courts their rights to jungles which they regarded as of little value. They were concerned with their own immediate needs only, and they exercised their rights only so far as to satisfy them.

They collected a liberal supply of wood for fuel and for the construction of their houses, their ploughs, carts, and other articles of husbandry. The landlords began to introduce in recent years restrictions on the exercise of this right. In some cases, the restrictions were reasonable and designed to prevent waste. In other cases, they were unreasonable, and designed merely to protect the jungle for the exclusive benefit of the landlord. But, whatever restrictions were imposed, the cultivators have, with few exceptions, always continued to exercise the right to take wood for fuel and domestic purposes up to the present day. We have now jungle rights in three different stages of development. In the Munda country, where the ancient system of land tenure still survives in the intact *khuntkatti* villages, the whole body of the cultivators (the Mundari *khuntkattidars*) are the proprietors of the jungles included within the periphery of their villages. These *khuntkattidars* have always offered a tenacious resistance to encroachments from without, and the zamindars have never succeeded in breaking down the system. In the rest of the district, the proprietary rights of the cultivators, the descendants of the clearers of the soil, have practically disappeared. The landlord exercises the right to sell and manage the jungle, subject to the right of the cultivators to take wood for the purposes mentioned above.

The third stage is reached, where the zamindars have succeeded in establishing their exclusive rights in jungles, having deprived the cultivators

of all rights of user, either through the agency of the Courts or by the exercise of force. Several of these jungle reserves, generally small in area, are found in the sadar subdivision. They are known as "rakhawat" to distinguish them from the jungles in which the cultivators continue to fell trees, which are called "katawat." It is usual now-a-days to talk of the encroachments of the raiyats in jungle areas. Europeans and Indians alike are in fact so accustomed to associate the idea of complete ownership with the term landlord that they sometimes fail to perceive that it is in reality the latter who have encroached, and by degrees deprived the village communities of their ancient proprietary rights. The only remnant of these proprietary rights, which the latter now retain in over seven-eighths of the district, is this right of user for certain purposes. It is necessary, however, to emphasize the fact that it is a remnant or a relic of the old proprietary right, and that it is not permissive, and has not grown up merely through the indulgence of the landlord. There are some areas, no doubt, which have been settled and cleared in modern times. In some of these, the landlords had established themselves before the era of clearing began, and it is, therefore, possible for them to plead that they are historically the sole proprietors of the jungle. This is only true of a small portion of the district, and, in any case, the rights of user in jungle are now practically uniform in nearly all zamindari villages.

293. *Customary rights in jungle.*—The customary rights in jungle found to exist at the time of the settlement operations were as follows :—

The tenants of the village have—

- (i) the right to cut trees for the purpose of building and repairing houses, for agricultural purposes, such as making ploughs and carts, and for fuel;
- (ii) the right to graze their cattle within the jungle;
- (iii) the right to collect the fruits of the *mahua*, and other fruits from jungle trees, and to gather various other kinds of forest produce for *bond fide* domestic purposes. Forest produce does not include articles produced artificially, but only wild growths.

These rights are exercised free of charge, and without the permission of the landlord in the vast majority of villages. The tenants have no customary right to fell timber or gather forest produce for purposes of sale.

294. *Restrictions.*—All these rights are exercised subject to a quantitative limitation and to the further restriction that no wanton damage or destruction of valuable property is caused by their exercise. The tenants can, therefore, take only sufficient wood or forest produce as is reasonably necessary for *bond fide* present domestic or agricultural purposes. During the last three years of the settlement operations, the practical restrictions found to be in vogue were recorded. The tenants cannot fell certain valuable trees, such as *mahua*, *karanj*, *asan*, *jamun*, *harra*, *kend*, *kusum*, *paras* and *am*; nor can they fell any *sakhua* trees beyond a certain girth, i.e., about $1\frac{1}{2}$ cubits or 27 inches in circumference, at a height of about three feet from the ground. When, however, *sakhua* trees of larger girth are required for the *bond fide* purpose of preparing ploughs and carts, they may be felled, provided their girth does not exceed about three feet, at a height of three feet from the ground. The tenants can always take away for fuel big and small trees or portions thereof, which are dead or dried up, and which cannot be used for purposes other than fuel.

295. *Rights of adjoining villages.*—The difficulty of protecting jungle from devastation and waste is complicated by the fact that the tenants of neighbouring villages, in which there is no jungle, frequently exercise the right to take wood for their requirements from the jungles of a particular village. The origin of this right, which at first sight seems extravagant and unreasonable, is simple of explanation. In past times, the whole country was divided into large blocks within which the inhabitants exercised these rights. With the increase in population and the progress of time, these blocks were further subdivided into smaller units, corresponding to the present villages. When these villages were formed, the jungle areas were frequently distributed very unequally. One village, for instance, contained a very high percentage of jungle, while the neighbouring villages were left with hardly any. The

village with the large area of jungle became subject to one landlord as regards the payment of rent and other zamindari charges; but the tenants of the neighbouring villages continued to retain their interest in the jungle portion and to exercise what are now called customary rights in it without hindrance or objection. This right is, therefore, really a survival of the ancient proprietary right of the larger village communities, who were formerly the proprietors of the soil. It is possible that, in some few cases, this right is permissive in origin. But this is always extremely unlikely. The landlords almost invariably object to its exercise, but the right is so certain, well recognized, and ancient, that they have hitherto been usually unable to prevent it.

296. *Right of the zamindar to sell jungle trees.*—It is very frequently stated now-a-days that the settlement operations, by educating the raiyats of the country in the knowledge of their rights in jungle trees and jungle produce, have given an impetus to deforestation, which will quickly lead to the complete denudation of the district, and that the zamindars of the country seeing this result in prospect will assuredly dispose of the jungle trees to contractors at the earliest possible date. Several instances of recent sales are quoted to prove this theory. As a matter of fact, sub-leases of jungles to contractors are not new in any part of Chota Nagpur. Several of the landlords look upon the jungles as a providential asset to be exploited for the payment of debt, and they have been hitherto prevented from exploiting this asset only by the difficulties of communication. Valuable jungle trees situated in a jungle 100 miles from the nearest railway are evidently of little or no commercial value. With the opening up of the country and the construction of railways, this aspect of affairs is changed, and, means of transport being to hand, the incentive to sell arises. The opening of the Purulia-Ranchi railway recently and of the main Bengal-Nagpur line, which fringes the southern portion of Gumla subdivision, has already led, or is leading, to more complete and thorough deforestation than the present needs or even the wanton destruction caused by all the raiyats of the district combined. I except the forest areas, which have been cleared for *bonâ fide* cultivation. The theory that the landlords can continue to sell and dispose of the jungle trees without any restriction or limits is, however, just as unreasonable as the counter theory that the raiyats can go and fell timber when and where they will, without any quantitative limits or customary restrictions. Historically the existing customary rights of the tenants are a survival of their ancient proprietary right. Even if their origin be not considered, they amount to an interest in immovable property, and the real fact is that the landlords and tenants usually now possess joint interests in the jungle, and neither party can exercise their rights to the entire exclusion of the other. The landlords can only continue to fell surplus trees, that is, trees which the raiyats have not the right to fell, and such trees as are not reasonably required for the satisfaction of the present or future *bonâ fide* reasonable requirements of the communities of tenants. There is, therefore, a clear limit to the extent of deforestation, which may be caused by sale. It may be said that the tenants have never questioned the right of the landlords to sell timber. This is not strictly correct, though it is true that they have not questioned such rights in the Civil Courts of the district. The obvious answer, however, is that the aboriginal raiyats do not understand the law of injunction, and that they have frequently similarly failed to resist in the recognized lawful way encroachments on rights which were equally clear or clearer. The landlords on the other hand have only once questioned the tenants' rights of user since the settlement operations began, and the attempt ended in complete failure.

297. *The extent of denudation.*—The question of denudation is not new. Mr. Hewitt, the Commissioner, called attention in 1883 to the rapid destruction of forests then going on and to the "incalculable misfortune resulting from this wholesale destruction not only to the Chota Nagpur country, but to the Bengal districts lying below the plateau." Dr. Schlich reported in 1885 that "in a general way it may be said that the Hazaribagh and Ranchi plateau contains now comparatively little forest." Dr. Schlich probably meant valuable forest, though the correctness of his opinion is open to doubt, even if applied to the jungles of the present day. The statistics prepared by the Settlement department show that there are still 2,281 square miles of jungle in the district, or 32 per cent. of its

total area, *i.e.*, an area greatly in excess of its present or possible future requirements, and vastly more than it is either practicable or possible to preserve for such scientific reasons as the prevention of floods or the prevention of possible disturbances in the equable distribution of the rainfall.

There are three main causes tending to denudation at present at work in the district, *viz.* :—

- (i) Reclamation of culturable jungle lands by the raiyats and, in a minor degree, by the landlords for the purpose of bringing them under cultivation.
- (ii) Sales and leases of jungle trees to contractors and others.
- (iii) The exercise of the customary rights of the tenants to take wood for agricultural purposes and fuel requirements.

There are some subsidiary causes such as “jhuming,” indiscriminate grazing, and the practice of firing the jungles. Under the system of “jhuming” as practised in this district, the trees are felled in jungle patches and burnt on the ground with the undergrowth, and a few precarious crops are raised on the land thus cleared. The practice of “jhuming” obtains only in remote parts of the district, where the jungle trees are still of little or no economic value, and jungle is plentiful. If the trees were of any value, the landlords could very quickly stop the practice, as no cultivator can possibly plead a customary right or usage to go inside the jungle and cause wanton destruction of valuable forest. “Jhuming” is also a practice which strikes the eye. A patch of jungle cleared in this way conveys to the mind at once the idea of wanton destruction of trees, and it is, therefore, sometimes hastily concluded that it is an important factor in deforestation. The deforestation caused by the practice is really quite insignificant when the effects of the main causes are considered.

Indiscriminate grazing of cattle is not, of course, an active cause of deforestation. But the cattle browse on the young shoots and retard the growth of the young saplings, and thus prevent to some extent the progress of natural re-afforestation.

Some slight damage is also done by firing the jungles situated on the tops and slopes of hills, wherever this is practised. The objects of firing are, of course, to improve the grazing, and to increase the quantity and quality of the detritus from the hills when the rainy season sets in, and thus to fertilize the fields in the valleys below. A Forest Officer would, no doubt, lay great stress on the damage done to the forest trees by the fire. There are, however, the other two factors to be considered, the improvement of the grazing, and the fertilization of the fields below. Further, though it is clear that the young shoots must be sometimes damaged by the fire and the progress of regeneration is thus retarded, it seems to be certain that valuable forest trees of any size are not affected. Rather they are benefited by the clearing away of the undergrowth of scrub, and the zamindars themselves, whose interests it is to preserve jungle, do not appear to object to the practice. The firing, of course, of young plantations would be necessarily destructive. But young plantations are never fired. The zamindars themselves, who may be supposed to have a moderate knowledge, derived from the experience of centuries, of the effects of firing old jungles, do not hesitate to set fire to the undergrowth when they desire to clear it away for mere *shikar* (hunting). They must, therefore, regard the damage done as really insignificant. I am, therefore, of opinion that the practice of firing old jungles, though detrimental to the process of natural re-afforestation, where the jungle has been unduly thinned, is not harmful to any appreciable extent in the vast majority of cases, and that the resulting advantages to the whole community are greater than the disadvantages.

Mr. Peppé, the manager of the Chota Nagpur estate, who has considerable local experience, appears to hold the same opinion.

I now come to the three main causes. The first and most important is, no doubt, the reclamation of culturable jungle land for cultivation. Owing to the absence of any previous general survey throughout the district, it was found impossible to get any exact details in most of the villages. A comparison of the present figures with the survey made of the Maharaja's estate in 1882-84 or other surveys made about the same time supplies, however, some

valuable data. The table given below shows the extent of denudation since that date in some selected villages:—

Serial No.	THANA OR OUT-POST.	NAMES OF VILLAGES.	Area of jungle, in acres.	Decrease in area since 1882-84.	Increase in area.	Percentage of decrease (-) or increase (+).	Cause of decrease or increase.
1	Mandar	Bargari (97)	202	5	...	- 2½	Extension of cultivation.
2	Ormanjhi	Sadma (9)	1,028	46	...	- 4	Ditto ditto.
3	Ditto	Dundun (15)	724	110	...	- 13	Extension of cultivation mainly.
4	Ditto	Hindibilli (20)	1,129	381	...	- 11	Ditto ditto.
5	Silli	Kulsud (37)	625	43	...	- 7	Ditto ditto.
6	Do.	Khalari (31)	104	52	...	- 33	Ditto ditto.
7	Do.	Misir Hutang (6)	331	101	...	- 23	Ditto ditto.
8	Do.	Burha behra (10)	868	108	...	- 11	Ditto ditto.
9	Do.	Sarjandih (68)	175	116	...	- 40	Ditto ditto.
10	Do.	Nagedih (30)	521	...	84	+ 13	Lands once brought under cultivation have been abandoned, and reverted to jungle again.
11	Bero	Hulsi (84)	1,425	2	...	- 1	
12	Do.	Ghaghra (16)	805	42	...	- 7	Extension of cultivation.
13	Do.	Haribarpur (78)	776	50	...	- 6	Ditto ditto.
14	Lapung	Latratu (65)	1,434	2	...	- 1	Ditto ditto.

The average net decrease in the area under jungle in these 14 villages was 11 per cent. within a period of about 25 years. Detailed enquiries were made in all the villages and in numerous others, for which no exact statistics are available by the attestation officers. The decrease in the jungle area is almost all attributed to reclamation, and there is a general consensus of opinion that, though the reclamation might have been better regulated, the extension of the area under cultivation was necessary in the interests of an increasing population. A very high percentage of the waste land, which is not under jungle, is unculturable, and it is doubtful whether any considerable proportion of it is suitable even for afforestation. The landlords themselves appear to have consented to the reclamation in the majority of cases; but, in the case of absentee landlords, the clearing was frequently carried out without their consent and sometimes, no doubt, without their knowledge. The decrease in the density of the jungle, and the size of the trees, is another subject which is discussed below.

Ten or eleven per cent. is, probably, a correct estimate of the extent of complete deforestation for the last quarter of a century due to reclamation.

The second main cause is the sale of trees to *thiccadars* and others. No statistics are available to show the extent of deforestation caused by this agency. The tenants, however, since the settlement operations commenced, have begun to abuse their customary rights in parts of the district to a greater extent than before, and this fact has, no doubt, given an impetus to sales, as the landlords naturally try to extract as much profit as possible from the jungle, before the valuable timber is felled. A subsidiary cause is the system of *bankatti*. Under this system, which appears to have come into vogue only in recent years, the zamindar exacts a payment of so many annas or rupees per family for the exercise of the right to sell wood collected from the village jungle in the weekly or bi-weekly bazars. The right to sell wood is sometimes regulated; but the amount sold is frequently in practice unlimited. Most of the wood, which is sold in Ranchi and Lohardaga towns, is brought in under this system from the adjoining jungles. The *bankatti* system does not, however, usually lead to complete deforestation; but it helps to destroy the commercial value of the jungles, as the trees are not allowed to grow to any size. The zamindars, however, reap a considerable annual profit from this source, and it is difficult to stop the practice. The combined complete deforestation from sale of all kinds at the present rate of progress can, however, hardly exceed 2 or 3 per cent. for a quarter of a century, though, of course, the percentage of valuable marketable timber exploited by the contractors in this way must be high.

The amount of complete denudation caused by the exercise or even abuse of the right to cut wood for fuel and agricultural purposes is exceedingly

small. The raiyats very rarely clear jungle for this purpose; but they fell timber to a greater extent than is necessary for their immediate requirements, and they pay little attention to the need of forest conservation. The result is that the jungle is unduly thinned, and the areas nearest to the village sites are reduced to scrub. A considerable economic waste results; but the total area under jungle, including in that term scrub and inferior trees, is not seriously diminished in the process. One of the worst forms of waste is due to the indiscriminate cutting of *sakhua* saplings for purposes of fencing and similar requirements, when less valuable wood is available for the purpose. The saplings are, however, cut at some height above the ground, and they grow again. Only a small percentage of the trees in the average village are allowed to attain maturity, and only a small percentage, therefore, ever become valuable marketable timber. The reason is, of course, that the tenants, who are frequently on bad terms with their landlords, have no personal interest in the conservation of the trees. The reverse in fact is true. When trees are allowed to attain a certain size, by village custom they become the exclusive property of the landlord, and the raiyats may not fell them. They are, therefore, really lost to the village community, and it is, therefore, not surprising that, in the absence of effective forest regulations, so much economic waste results. A number of landlords are still able, by means of forest guards, to exercise some effective control over the felling of timber, but the majority are not. The raiyats, knowing their customary rights, pay little attention to the landlords' needs, and the devastation of the jungle is, therefore, mostly unchecked.

These conditions prevail where there is still a plentiful supply of jungle available for fuel and other domestic and agricultural purposes. But, where the pressure of the population is comparatively greater and the jungle area has receded considerably, the conditions change and the village communities themselves sometimes attempt to control the exercise of the customary rights by individual members. This fact does not appear to be generally known. A description of the system practised in some villages of Bero is given below.

298. *Distribution of jungle areas.*—The table given below shows the distribution of jungle in the various thanas or outposts:—

THANA OR OUTPOST.	Area, in square miles.	Area of culturable jungle, in square miles.	Area of unculturable jungle, in square miles.	Total area of both kinds.	Percentage of jungle to area of thana or outpost.
Bishunpur ...	237	42	111	153	64
Burmu ...	176	35	60	95	54
Kurdeg ...	309	55	114	169	54
Kolobira ...	396	111	100	211	53
Angara ...	174	20	64	84	48
Kochedega ...	530	92	153	245	46
Bano ...	212	41	49	90	42
Palkot ...	223	30	64	94	42
Raidih ...	198	38	42	80	40
Lohardaga ...	476	53	129	182	38
Chainpur ...	407	19	131	150	37
Ormanjhi ...	88	5	27	32	36
Bundu ...	103	16	15	31	30
Tamar ...	482	109	31	140	29
Silli ...	123	4	30	34	28
Ghaghra ...	207	7	40	47	23
Mandar ...	200	29	14	43	21
Bero ...	152	19	13	32	21
Basia ...	296	29	31	60	20
Kuru ...	98	4	14	18	18
Ranchi ...	450	19	60	79	17
Karra ...	199	22	13	35	17
Torpa ...	276	21	26	47	17
Lapung ...	117	8	11	19	16
Gumla ...	208	10	18	28	13
Khunti ...	338	30	8	38	11
Sonabatu ...	146	■	6	14	10
Sisai ...	281	12	14	26	9

It is somewhat remarkable that thana Sisai, an area which is not usually associated with the idea of deforestation, has the smallest percentage of forest (9 per cent.). Notwithstanding the fact that the percentage of forest is small, wood for fuel and domestic purposes is plentiful, owing to the fact that the country is extremely well wooded. The whole country is studded with trees, large and small, and the excess growth is more than sufficient for all possible requirements in the near future, if the trees are properly conserved. The jungle has been cleared almost entirely for cultivation, and there have been very few, if any, sales, the area being remote from railways. The state of affairs in this thana and, indeed, in several other thanas of the district, in which the jungle has receded to very small limits, suggests the importance of individual trees growing on the tenants' holdings and landlords' *khas* lands as a substitute for forest and as a preventive of the evils which it is prophesied will follow, when a certain stage of denudation is reached.

299. Local attempts to preserve jungles.—It is obvious that, where the jungle is abundant, the backward village communities, such as exist in Ranchi, will make no attempt to regulate the felling of timber with the object of preserving an adequate supply for future generations. A stage is, however, finally reached when the jungle area is reduced to small limits and has been excessively thinned owing to sales and the abuse by the tenants of their customary right to take wood for their requirements, when the necessity of conservation is brought home to the minds of the villagers. Such a stage has been already reached in several parts of the district as, for instance, in thanas Bero, Mandar, and Ranchi. In these latter areas the density of the population is greater than in the remoter parts, and the needs of the population and the pressure on the jungles are correspondingly greater.

300. Bero thana.—The following account is given of the method of preserving jungle in Bero under a system of local co-operation, by Babu H. D. Roy, an experienced officer of the Settlement department, who made special enquiries regarding the jungle question in the field season of 1907-08:—

"The jungles of this area consist of small blocks of forest trees, one or more in each village, which are used generally as fuel preserves. They are locally called *patras*, and the trees generally found in them are—

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| (1) <i>Sakhua</i> . | (8) <i>Bahira</i> . |
| (2) <i>Putri</i> . | (9) <i>Aunra</i> . |
| (3) <i>Ruchmuchia</i> . | (10) <i>Harra</i> . |
| (4) <i>Piar</i> . | (11) <i>Mahua</i> . |
| (5) <i>Pithour</i> . | (12) <i>Kusum</i> . |
| (6) <i>Pipar</i> . | (13) <i>Mango</i> . |
| (7) <i>Dumar</i> . | (14) <i>Jamun</i> . |

Putri and *ruchmuchia* are generally small trees, which are used for fuel and for making hedges.

Piar, *pithour*, *pipar*, *dumar*, *bahira* and *aunra* yield edible fruits; but they are sometimes cut for fuel.

Harra, *mahua*, *kusum*, *mango* and *jamun* are never cut.

Sakhua occupies at least 95 per cent. of the area of each *patra*. It is considered by the landlords as marketable timber; but it is used by the raiyats as fuel.

On enquiry, I find that there is a regular system in vogue in every village regulating the cutting of *sakhua* for purposes of fuel. This system seems to be very sound, as it assures a permanent fuel supply.

When a *sakhua* tree is allowed to grow to any size, it is cut by the landlord and sold as timber. The landlord gets some money, but from the raiyat's standpoint it is a loss; as, when a tree of considerable size is cut, it never grows again.

When, however, young saplings are cut, a portion of the stem is left and they grow again.

The saplings of a *patra* are cut once a year, generally in March and April. A portion of the *patra* is selected, and all the saplings in this portion are cut, other portions being left untouched.

The next year, another portion is selected, and so on. The stems of the saplings attain to some size again in three or four years, and they are cut again.

Thus each block is preserved for four or five years, and the blocks are cut in rotation once every fourth or fifth year. If this system could be rigidly enforced, there would never be any lack of fuel for the ordinary requirements of the tenants, who supplement the supply from the *patras*, by cutting their own trees growing on cultivated lands from time to time, as occasion arises. They look to the big jungles for timber for their other domestic uses and agricultural implements.

The landlords almost always reserve in each village a portion of the *patra* for growing timber. While the saplings are still young, they cut the branches only for fuel. After a certain number of years, there are no branches left, and the trunks alone remain. These blocks then become useless for fuel supply. When the trees have attained a fair size, they are cut down and sold; this kind of jungle is never replaced. So reservations for purposes of valuable timber are regarded by the raiyats as a preliminary to complete deforestation.

A very great enemy of the fuel supply is the *Lohar* of the village. As stated above, it is only once a year that cutting of *sakhua* is permitted. But the village *Lohar* wants charcoal every day of his life. He steals inside the *patra*, cuts a tree, root and branch, leaves the branches alone (for fear of discovery, and also because the young branches do not yield good charcoal), and takes the lower portion of the stem and the root in his basket to his home, where he converts them into charcoal at his leisure. A sapling thus uprooted is never replaced.

From what I have stated above, it will be evident that in the case of the small *patras* the raiyats would strongly resist any attempt at reservation in favour of the landlord. They do not mind having to pay for timber for preparing their implements of agriculture or for rafters for their huts; but they must have their daily supply of fuel free. For agricultural purposes, they generally go to the big jungles and get their supply of timber.

So far, therefore, as these small *patras* are concerned, it does not seem to me to be at all necessary, or even desirable, to interfere with the custom prevailing in the villages. As to the mischief done by *Lohars* it must continue; for, although the *Lohar* is at times somewhat roughly handled when discovered at his practice, he is generally abetted by the particular raiyats who want their ploughshares made quickly, and the chances of discovery are therefore small."

301. Attempts at conservation sporadic.—It must be admitted, however, that the attempts at forest conservation, even with the object of maintaining an adequate fuel-supply, are sporadic. In Lapung, which is adjacent to Bero, very little effort is made by the villagers to regulate the fuel-supply, though in some villages sporadic attempts are made. Mr. Guest, the Assistant Settlement Officer, who attested rents in this area, sums up the existing state of affairs as follows:—

"The local attempts at forest preservation are few. Though the zamindars stated that they employed forest guards the only ones I found were the *bhandari* or local field agent and the *dhangars* (labourers), whose ideas of forest preservation are not so matured as to make them run the risk of falling foul of the general body of tenants, and the result is that the latter do what they like.

The reasons why some landlords attempt to preserve jungle are mercenary; their sole object being to make as much out of the trees as possible, by selling the timber. I came across no cases of sales or leases of the jungles which had been effected recently; but this is not to the credit of the landlords, but is due to the fact that there is no demand.

In practically all cases in which the landlord had made attempts to preserve the jungle, he was found to have sold the trees suitable for making sleepers, or trees of small size for making rafters, etc."

302. Some effects of deforestation.—I do not propose to discuss here the effects of deforestation further than to say that there is no evidence whatsoever that the thinning of the forests and the reclamation of parts of the jungle for cultivation have had yet any effect in decreasing the rainfall, or even in causing appreciable disturbances in its distribution. There is also no proof that the subsoil water level has receded. It is indeed extremely unlikely that any such ill-effects have been caused, as the jungle area is still 32 per cent. of the whole district area and the country, as a whole, is well wooded, apart from the existence of forests. There is another argument against deforestation, which it is necessary to notice, viz., that the destruction of the forest is leading to deterioration of the cultivated lands of the district. The theoretical grounds, on which the theory is based, have, however, clearly no application in this district. The fact is that the areas, in which the jungle has receded to comparatively small limits, contain the best and most productive lands in the district. Crop-cutting experiments show that the most productive lands are to be found in thanas Mandar, Ranchi, and Bero, where the jungle area is comparatively small, and it is in these thanas and others, where there is comparatively little jungle, that uplands are cultivated every year. In the more jungly areas, the crops grown on them are somewhat precarious, and they are left fallow every second or every third year, not being able to produce crops every year. For instance, Bishunpur has a higher percentage of jungle than exists in any other outpost or thana jurisdiction. The uplands are so poor that they are

cultivated only once in every $2\frac{1}{2}$ years on the average. The existing facts are entirely opposed to the theory that deforestation is causing any deterioration of the soil in the cultivated area. The opposite appears to be the case.

303. Conclusions.—The conclusions, which appear to me to be reasonable, after an experience of nearly $8\frac{1}{2}$ years in the district, and on a full consideration of the reports of the officers of the Settlement department, who have enquired into the question, and all available statistics, are—

- I.—That there is still more than sufficient jungle in the district to satisfy all immediate requirements, and that none of the evil-effects of denudation have yet made themselves manifest.
- II.—That neither landlords nor tenants, however, pay sufficient attention to the conservation of jungles, and that both frequently abuse their rights, the former by unrestricted and unregulated sales of timber to contractors and others, and the latter by extravagant felling of timber for their own use.
- III.—That the interests of the parties having joint interests in the jungles being antagonistic, it is in practice impossible to devise a system of joint management, which will effectually preserve permanently a large proportion of the existing jungles.
- IV.—Under the existing system, the landlords are the chief sufferers. The cultivators can still obtain sufficient wood for fuel and other purposes; but only a small percentage of the valuable trees are allowed to attain maturity, and the percentage of really marketable timber is, therefore, probably not more than a fourth or fifth of what it ought to be, after allowing for the reasonable requirements of the village communities. There is thus great economic waste.
- V.—The jungle question is, therefore, urgent for two reasons. It is the duty of the Legislature to interfere and stop the economic waste, if that is possible, and to make provision for the maintenance of a minimum area of permanent jungle properly managed and conserved.

304. Remedies proposed.—From the statistics prepared by the Settlement department, it appears that there are still 889 square miles of culturable jungle in the district, equivalent to $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of its total area.

It has been shown in the last chapter that the majority of the raiyats under present conditions have little or no margin from which to pay their rents and to purchase the most common luxuries, and that the total produce of the cultivated lands is barely sufficient for present requirements. It will be, therefore, found altogether impracticable and indeed impossible to prevent the reclamation of the remaining culturable area for the purpose of increasing the food-supply, as the population increases. There remain 1,392 square miles of non-culturable jungle, or nearly 20 per cent. of the total district area. This is more than sufficient to work upon, when it is considered that the country is still studded with trees and generally well wooded. It being impossible to entrust the management of the jungles to either of the parties, who possess a joint interest in it, under present conditions, the expedient of State management at once suggests itself. I think, however, that a system of State management is impracticable for the following reasons.

A system of State management to be effective would obviously require a large staff, including a large number of underlings. The jungle areas are scattered over about 1,500 villages in an area of 7,103 square miles. One or even two gazetted Forest officers could only hope to make a cursory inspection of these jungles once in about every two years. Without the assistance of a large and expensive subordinate staff, penal clauses could not possibly be effective. The history of the district, and the recorded experiences of the officers, who have studied the question, prove clearly that aborigines are likely to be fleeced and oppressed by underlings to a peculiar degree, and, I apprehend, therefore, that, if the State system of management were put in force effectively, it would become extremely onerous to the great body of the raiyats, and would soon lead to discontent and an outburst similar to the Birsa rising.

These facts require careful consideration. The expenses entailed by such a system of management would be heavy, and altogether out of proportion to the present commercial value of the jungles.

Lastly, the history of the management of estates in this district by State agency has not been in the past so successful as to warrant any expectation of successful management of jungles by a similar agency. The management of jungles is a much more difficult operation, and requires particularly delicate handling in prevailing conditions. With regard to the Encumbered Estates management, the landlords themselves sometimes complain and suggest its inefficiency, and it has been shown in a previous chapter that the operations of the management in the Munda country in the past was one of the causes of the agrarian discontent, which culminated in the Birsa outbreak. The management was characterized at least in one pargana by an entire disregard of agrarian customs, which led to the breakdown of the ancient system of land-tenure in the area. I apprehend that some expert Forest officers might, in their zeal for forest conservation, pay insufficient attention to customary rights, and thus bring about disastrous results and possibly a speedy reversal of policy. I suggest the following solution:—

305. Suggested system of management.—The State should acquire compulsorily five or six compact blocks of non-culturable jungle, aggregating about 300 square miles, and entrust the area so acquired to the Forest department to manage. All existing customary rights should be extinguished in these blocks. Care should, therefore, be taken to reserve a portion of jungle for the supply of fuel and wood and for grazing purposes for the village communities, who have any rights of user in the jungles so acquired. The selected blocks might be located in thanas Ranchi, Angara, Silli, Kurdeg, Lohardaga, Kochedega, and Kalebira. The cost of their acquisition by the State would be comparatively inexpensive, as the commercial value of most of the jungle is at present small. The management would, no doubt, at first be unremunerative; but, the blocks being compact, and, therefore, offering facilities for economic management, there is little doubt that after 10 or 15 years they would become remunerative. Surplus valuable timber could be sold to commercial companies, and wood suitable for fuel and agricultural purposes to the villagers. There would thus be a minimum of permanent jungle in the district amounting to 4 per cent. of its total area. In view of the considerable excise revenue derived from the district, the needs of the whole community, the gravity of the problem, and the difficulty of dealing with it on other lines, the proposal can hardly be deemed extravagant. The landlords, I have reason to believe, would offer no opposition to the acquisition of a portion of their jungles.

306. Partition of the jungles.—With regard to the remaining 1,100 square miles of non-culturable jungles, as it is clear that, as long as the present system of joint interest survives, economic waste must remain to a great extent unchecked, the only feasible remedy appears to be a partition of the jungle. The Deputy Commissioner should, therefore, be empowered on the application of the landlord or a majority of the raiyats, to partition the jungle area between them. In special cases, it would be necessary to make the process compulsory, and power should, therefore, be taken under proper safeguards with a view to the use of compulsory powers. It would evidently be impracticable to partition culturable jungle or very small areas, which are barely sufficient for present needs. In applying this process, power should, I think, be also taken to reserve areas for grazing purposes only. The cultivators exercise the customary right to graze their cattle in the jungles at present, and this fact must be taken into consideration in apportioning them. But the landlord should have exclusive control of the area assigned to him.

It is not contended that, if this system were put in force, deforestation would be altogether prevented. But it would undoubtedly receive a check.

It must be admitted that some of the landlords would probably dispose of the timber of their portions by sale; but at present none of them receive more than one-fourth or one-fifth of the value of the true surplus, and they are in any case entitled to protection against the present economic waste. It is also reasonable to suppose, even if they dispose of all the timber, that, having an incentive to do so, they would proceed to re-forest the area, and, in any case, even if no artificial stimulus were applied, the progress of natural regeneration

would go on unchecked and unhindered. As to the areas, which would be assigned to the village communities, as has been shown above with regard to the area included in Bero outpost, the raiyats of the district—even the aborigines—are not so oblivious of their own interests, as is sometimes supposed, wherever the pressure on the jungle has become really serious.

307. Rules for forest conservation by village communities.—It would, therefore, be sufficient to draft a few simple rules on the lines of the restrictions already imposed by custom, with a view to making their operation more definite and certain. The Deputy Commissioner should be empowered to inflict small fines for breaches of the rules, on the application of any member of the village community, and all sales of wood from these reserves for any purpose whatsoever should be prohibited.

When the area of jungle assigned to the village communities is thus restricted, there is little doubt that the members would feel some interest in preserving it, and individuals would, no doubt, complain to the authorities in case of serious or continued breaches of the rules. The difficulties of partition have, in my opinion, been greatly exaggerated. The substitution of ownership by persons, whose interests are alike, for *quasi*-ownership by two parties, whose interest are entirely antagonistic, would, I am convinced, change the aspect of affairs, and would effectively tend to conservation of the forests. It would bring into operation forces and incentives, which are at present lacking, and the effective action of natural regeneration would not be hindered or retarded in the area assigned to the landlord.

308. Re-afforestation.—Finally in those areas, in which the jungle has receded to narrow limits, an effort should be made to re-afforest by planting small groves and trees throughout the area. All that is wanted is a provision in law, which would secure that all trees planted or reared should belong to the planter or the person who rears them. The rest may be left to the local authorities. The raiyats and landlords of this district still appreciate a Deputy Commissioner, who takes a paternal interest in their welfare; and such an officer would have no difficulty in inducing them to plant groves and trees in suitable areas. The European missionaries would, no doubt, assist. Prizes might be given by the local Agricultural Association for the best plantations in certain areas every year, and *Sanads* might be given to zamindars, who re-afforest considerable areas. In years of scarcity, when loans are made to the people to help them to tide over their difficulties, a small sum might be set aside for planting trees and fencing the plantations.

By these and similar means, that is, by enlisting the voluntary co-operation of the people concerned, it is possible to provide for all the requirements of the future. The country is at present well wooded, and it seems a simple matter to improve these conditions in the ways suggested.

Effective State control, that is, control by agents of Government with a sufficient staff to manage forests after the manner of experts, and to prevent breaches of forest rules, is almost certainly bound to fail for the reasons given above. A Forest Officer stationed in the district with a few assistants and no subordinate agency of underlings could do little or nothing. An active European officer, I have found from experience, can only get round an area of 800 or 900 square miles twice or thrice in a five or six months' tour, and he could, therefore, inspect the jungles in a jungle area only twice or thrice in a year, and the inspection would be necessarily somewhat cursory. The extent of the jungles and their scattered character do not appear to be sufficiently realized, and the expedient of appointing a Forest officer to manage them or to exercise control in them with no adequate subordinate staff to assist him, is merely dallying with the question.

TREES.

309. The customs with regard to trees are as follows:—

In general, trees belong to the person who planted them, wherever they may be situated. This does not mean that a raiyat can trespass on the landlord's or another raiyat's land and plant trees there. As a rule, however, objections are rarely made to the planting of trees, and, when objection has not been made within a reasonable time, consent must ordinarily be deemed

to have been given. Trees, which are self-grown in a tenant's land since the inception of the tenancy, but which have been tended or reared by the tenant, belong to him.

Trees growing in the jungle or waste lands belong to the zamindar, unless they have been planted by a tenant, in which case they belong to him. When a tenant makes a clearance in the jungle and brings new lands under cultivation, he frequently allows scattered jungle trees to stand on the lands comprised within his tenancy. These trees still remain the property of the landlord, and the right of ownership over them does not pass by custom to the tenant.

The fruits of the trees growing in a tenant's lands are generally enjoyed by the whole community, except the fruits of *jack*, *karanj* and *tamarind*, which are the exclusive property of the owner of the trees. The right of the community to enjoy the fruit of other trees owned by individual tenants would appear, however, to be a permissive and not an absolute right. Custom does not apply, of course, to the fruits of trees growing in gardens or other reserves. Trees grown by a tenant during the period of his tenancy accede to the soil, and the ownership in them passes to the landlord, on the termination of the tenancy.

The owner of a tree can use it for producing lac or for any other purpose without payment of any fee. He can also cut it down, if required, without reference to the landlord.

RIGHT OF RECLAMATION.

310. During the last two years of the attestation programme a record of the rights of the raiyats to reclaim jungle and waste was made. It was found that, with very few exceptions, the raiyats must by custom obtain the consent of the landlord before they commence reclamation.

CHAPTER X.

SUITS, APPLICATIONS AND SETTLEMENT OF FAIR RENTS.

311. Before the commencement of the present Tenancy Act, there was no procedure in force for the settlement of fair rents, or for the decision of disputes after final publication of the record, except in two special cases. Fair rents were, therefore, not settled till after the passing of the Tenancy Act of 1908.

312. *Suits under Act I of 1879.*—The suits entertained under the provisions of Act I of 1879 related to the incidents of Mundari *khuntkatti* tenancies. As explained before, a final record was made of the incidents of these tenancies throughout the district, and the entries made in the settlement records regarding them were conclusive, subject to the right of the parties aggrieved to bring a suit under section 160 of the Act in the Court of the Revenue-officer to contest their correctness or completeness. The decision of the Revenue-officer under section 160 was conclusive, subject to the right of a final appeal to the Commissioner of the division. All the suits filed appertained to the Munda country, the present Khunti subdivision.

The table given below shows the number filed and the result of appeals:—

Number of suits instituted.	Number of suits disposed of.	Number of appeals instituted.	Number of decisions upheld.	Number of decisions modified.	Number of decisions reversed.
704	704	224	199	10	15

313. *Suits under section 9A of the Commutation Act.*—Similarly, suits under section 9A of the repealed Commutation Act to contest the correctness or the completeness of the entries regarding prædial conditions were entertained, the same right of appeal being allowed to the Commissioner.

The table given below shows the number filed and the results of appeals:—

SUBDIVISION.	Number of suits instituted.	Number of suits disposed of.	Number of appeals instituted.	Number of decisions upheld in appeal.	Number of decisions modified on appeal.	Number of decisions reversed in appeal.
Khunti ...	28	28	1	1	...	...
Gumla ...	20	20	2	2	...	...
Total ...	48	48	3	3	...	...

The returns for the sadar subdivision are not yet complete, as all the cases have not been disposed of. The number instituted is, however, small as in the other subdivisions. It will thus be seen that the decisions of the Settlement Officers were accepted by the vast majority of the landlords and raiyats, and no serious attempt was made to question the correctness or the fairness of the principles on which the commutation was made.

314. *Suits under section 87 and applications under section 85 of the Chota Nagpur Tenancy Act.*—Since the passing of the Tenancy Act of 1908, suits for the decisions of disputes regarding any entry in, or omission from, the record were entertained under section 87 of the Act. Applications for settlement of fair rents can also be made under section 85. The extent to which the landlords and tenants availed themselves of these provisions will be seen from the table given below:—

YEAR.	Thanas or outposts.	Number of suits under section 87.	Number of applications under section 85.
1909 ...	Gharhra, Bishunpur, and Chainpur.	65	26
1910 ...	Sisai, Lohardaga, Lapung, Bero, and Kuru.	304	439

The figures for the last year's area are not available, as the time for filing suits and applications had not expired at the time of writing. The suits and applications of the year 1909 have been disposed of. There were only one or two appeals from the decisions under section 87, which are still pending. The suits and applications of the year 1910 are being disposed of at present.

315. *Applications under section 94.*—In addition to the suits and applications referred to above, provision was made in the new Act, permitting the filing of applications for settlement of fair rents on excess lands, which were found to be unassessed to rent at the time the record was completed.

The landlords were allowed to file the applications in respect of areas, which had been finally published before the passing of the Act, provided they were filed within two years from the date of its commencement. There was no provision in the repealed Act for settling rent in such cases, and, as the provisions of sub-section (1) of section 94 debarred the landlords from enhancing the rents of tenancies for a period of seven years after final publication of the record, when such publication was made before the commencement of the Act, it was considered fair to allow the landlords the chance of having rents settled on all excess lands, which had been recorded as unassessed, but assessable to rent (*belagan kabil lagan*). The total number of applications filed under section 94 was—

Subdivision Khunti	...	...	311
Subdivision Gumla	...	...	1,751
Sadar	...	...	8
Total	...	...	2,070

The applications concerned individual tenancies, and the rents were settled at current village rates. Nearly all the applications have been disposed of, and the decisions have been accepted without demur, as it was recognized that the question of enhancing the existing village rates of rent could hardly be entertained in the case of a few scattered tenancies, without any reference to the whole body of tenants.

SETTLEMENT OF FAIR RENTS IN GHAGHRA, BISHUNPUR, AND CHAINPUR.

316. Thana Ghaghra.—The Assistant Settlement Officer, Babu H. D. Roy, settled fair rents in thana Ghaghra, from which area the majority of the applications came, at the following rates:—

		Rs.	A.	P.	
<i>Don</i>	II=20 units of value at	3	2	0	per acre.
<i>Don</i>	III=16 ditto	2	8	0	"
<i>Don</i>	IV=10 ditto	1	0	0	"
<i>Tanr</i>	I= 6 ditto	0	15	0	"
<i>Tanr</i>	II= 2 ditto	0	5	0	"
<i>Tanr</i>	III= 1 ditto	0	2	6	"

He allowed an enhancement on prevailing rates equivalent to 20 per cent. on the ground of rise in prices; but the prevailing rates were calculated from the statistics of a large number of villages. The net result was an increase of rent varying from 22 to 33 per cent. *Korkar* lands were assessed to rent at half the rates for ordinary lands, and no rents were assessed on uncultivated or waste lands in the possession of the raiyats. The applications in five cases related to the rents of all the tenants in the village.

317. Outpost Bishunpur.—In outpost Bishunpur, the rates fixed were—

		Rs.	A.	P.	
<i>Don</i>	II at	2	12	0	per acre.
<i>Don</i>	III "	2	3	0	"
<i>Don</i>	IV "	1	6	0	"
<i>Tanr</i>	I "	0	13	0	"
<i>Tanr</i>	II "	0	4	3	"
<i>Tanr</i>	III "	0	2	3	"

The increase in rent came to 4 per cent., but the rates were fixed in one village only, the other applications being dismissed on the ground that the existing rents were already sufficiently high.

318. Chainpur thana.—The applications from Chainpur thana were all rejected, the incidence of the existing rent being found to be already sufficiently high.

319. Appeals.—There were only four appeals against these decisions to the Settlement Officer, in all of which the landlords were the applicants. The appeals have been rejected, and the right of a second appeal to the Commissioner was not availed of. The decisions have, therefore, become final.

320. Remarks.—The principles on which the rent settlements were made appear to have been very fair. It would evidently be inequitable to allow heavy enhancements of rent in a district, in which the land has been almost entirely reclaimed by the labour of the cultivators with no assistance from the landlords. It has been already shown that the majority of the cultivators have little or no margin out of which to pay their rents, and the landlords can hardly argue that they should not be penalised because so many of the tenancies are small uneconomic holdings.

In the vast majority of cases they did not settle the tenants on the lands. They established their present limited proprietary rights, when large areas were already cleared, by processes already described; and it is, therefore, absurd to contend that they are the absolute owners of the soil, and that the existing subdivisions of the cultivating tenancies, especially the uneconomic holdings, should not be considered, whenever the question of the incidence of rent arises.

The value assigned to the uplands is, no doubt, less than their value in normal years. But the crops grown on uplands are peculiarly precarious. If the distribution of the rainfall is unseasonable or unequal, the crops grown on these lands are often a total failure, and, as it has always been the custom

in the district to consider the uplands as altogether subsidiary to the lowlands, it appears to be sound to assess the major portion of the rent on the latter.

As the lands of the district have now been all classified, it is also a sound policy to aim at a general fixation of rents per thana or outpost unit. Where the conditions differ materially in different parts of a thana, it will be necessary to subdivide the area into two or more portions for the purpose of rent settlement. This is, however, exceptional. When rates have been struck for a thana or outpost unit, the landlords and raiyats will quickly begin to recognize them as the standard; new tenancies will be settled at these rates, and the possibility of future disputes obviated. The diversity of decisions in the past as to the incidence of rent was always a fruitful cause of agrarian discontent; and an attempt to settle rents throughout the district, village by village, would tend to perpetuate this diversity, and eventually to bring about again the strife and discontent which the settlement operations have allayed.

321. *An important result of the rent settlement.*—An important result of the definite settlement of rent on the uplands will be the protection afforded to the raiyat against enhancement of rent in future, owing to improvements made in the productive powers of the lands by his own agency.

For instance, an acre of uplands, which has been now assessed to rent at five annas per acre, may, within the next fifteen years, be converted to lowlands (*don*) by the process of embanking or terracing, by the raiyat's own agency.

As the landlord can only claim enhancements on the grounds mentioned in section 29 of the Act, he cannot plead the increase in the productive powers of the soil, which has been brought about by the raiyat's own agency, and the only ground of enhancement, which he can urge, is a rise in the average local prices of staple foods during the currency of the settlement. On this ground he might obtain an enhancement possibly of one anna per acre; but he will not be entitled under the provisions of the law or, indeed, in equity to an assessment of rent on the land at the current rates for lowlands.

The existing custom of assessment of even half the rates for lowlands on lands converted into *korkar* from uplands already included in the raiyat's tenancy appears to be clearly inequitable; and, if the raiyat can prove that his uplands are already assessed to rent, it is also illegal. There appears to be no good reason why the landlord should obtain an enhancement for lands included within a raiyat's tenancy, merely because they have been improved by the raiyat himself. The question of the incidence of rent on *korkar* lands converted into rice-land from the landlord's *khas* or the jungle and waste, stands on an entirely different footing.

It is interesting to note that in the Sonthal Parganas rent-settlement effected during recent years, one of the rules for settlement of rents, which were sanctioned by Government, laid down the principle that lands specially improved by the raiyat's own agency should not be assessed at the rates for the class to which they have been raised, but at the rates for the class to which they naturally appertained; the rule is as follows:—

“If a raiyat can prove that improvement in the class of his land has been caused by his own efforts, made during the currency of the expiring settlement (such exertion not being in the ordinary course of agriculture, but a special undertaking, such as the making of a *bundh* to catch the water, or the blocking and reclaiming of the bed of a water-course), he may claim that the land in question shall for this settlement be placed in the natural class, not in the class to which it has been raised by his improvements.”

CHAPTER XI.

CONCLUSION.

322. The cadastral survey operations in Ranchi district commenced in the cold weather of 1902, and the settlement operations were practically concluded by the end of 1910. At the time of writing, only some applications for fair rent settlement, and suits filed within three months of final publication remain to be disposed of.

323. *Results.*—When Mr. Lister began the settlement operations, the Munda country was in a state of ferment. The Birsa rising, which recalled

memories of the great Kol rebellion of 1831-32, had been nipped in the bud by the prompt action of the executive authorities, and had been put down by military force. The revolt was the culminating point of the agrarian discontent, which had made its existence manifest by sporadic acts of violence for half a century. The investigations of the Settlement Officers showed, however, that the Mundas had substantial grievances. Remedial measures followed. In 1903 emergent legislation was undertaken, and a Bill was passed in the Bengal Council, the main objects of which were to define the customary rights of the cultivators, and to give finality to the record-of-rights. The settlement operations which followed were carried out by Mr. Lister in a generous and sympathetic spirit, and the result has been the complete tranquilization of the Munda country.

Prescriptive rights were not interfered with, but existing customary rights were confirmed, and measures taken to prevent their infringement in the future. The Mundas and their landlords have undoubtedly accepted the record-of-rights as a final settlement of the issues, and any attempt to reopen the question, either for the landlords' or the tenants' benefit, must necessarily have an unsettling effect, and in the end can hardly fail to be calamitous.

The long debated question of prædial dues and services has also been disposed of throughout the whole district, and an unfailing source of agrarian strife removed. In addition, the cultivators of the district have now got security for their tenancies, and the landlords for their rents. The prolonged enquiries made by the Settlement Officers have shown conclusively that no tenant's possession in his holding was formerly secure. Wrongful dispossession was an ordinary incident of numerous cultivating tenancies. The more ignorant and illiterate landlords of the district were also frequently unable to realize their full rents, in face of hostile combinations of the tenants. This state of affairs has now ceased. The Courts have also got in the settlement *khatians* and the record of customary rights and usages as a basis for the proper administration of the law, which, if properly utilized, will prevent the miscarriages of justice so frequent in former times.

For these reasons, I think that the settlement now completed is the most important administrative event for the masses of the people in Chota Nagpur, which has been carried through since the establishment of British dominion in this part of India.

The immediate effects of the operations are conclusively shown by the enormous decrease in litigation concerning rents and lands in the Courts. The Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, who administer the Revenue and Criminal law, have been stationed in the district usually only a year or two, and they have, therefore, no practical acquaintance with the conditions which existed in the country prior to the initiation of settlement operations. Their testimony is, therefore, perhaps of little value. I have, however, taken the opinions of several pleaders, zamindars, and missionaries, and extracts from these opinions are quoted below:—

324. Opinions.—Babu Radha Gobinda Chowdhury, who is the leading Pleader of the Ranchi bar and has worked 22 years in the district, expressed the following opinion:—

“Most of the civil suits in Ranchi district concern small tenancies. The issues are first thrashed out in the Criminal Courts, and from there they come to the Civil Courts. There has been a considerable decrease in this class of suit since the settlement records began to take effect, and a further decrease is to be expected. As regards rent-suits, there is also a decrease in litigations, as the only issue, which can now arise, is whether the rent has been actually paid or not.”

Babu Sarat Chandra Roy, Pleader, one of the leading junior members of the Ranchi bar, writes:—

“There can be no question that the recent settlement operations have resulted in a sudden and considerable decrease of litigation. The majority of law cases in this district involve disputes as to rights to land. Of civil suits in the ‘settled area,’ there are hardly any left now, except suits for partition and inheritance (of which two classes of suits there have always been extremely few in this district), and money-suits generally based on simple bonds and mortgages. In the *thanas* in which the records-of-rights have been recently or will shortly be published, it seems there will be very few civil suits in the regular Civil Courts. In the first place, the raiyats are poorer than formerly, and, in the second place, there seems to have been created a widespread impression in the minds of intending litigants

that the Civil Courts are not disposed to upset settlement decisions, and that cases under section 87, Chota Nagpur Tenancy Act, stand a better chance of success (if strong on their merits) than suits for the same relief in the regular Civil Courts.

In the regular Revenue Courts, the hitherto large number of rent-suits in this district, involving every conceivable issue, have necessarily been reduced, I should think, by more than half, for practically the only issue now raised, and the one which can with any hope of success be raised, is the one of payment.

As for criminal cases, there has necessarily been an enormous decrease, for most of the criminal cases of the district were 'paddy-theft' cases and cases of trespass on lands in assertion of a supposed or real right. Now, however, experience has taught the people that it is mere waste of money to seek a verdict, in opposition to the settlement records."

Babu Ashutosh Rai, a junior Pleader of the Ranchi bar, whose family has been long resident in the district, writes :—

"Cases have gone on steadily decreasing, and I am glad to be able to state, after mature consideration, that the settlement operations here have not only had the effect of considerably decreasing the number of criminal cases, but have also greatly simplified the issues in rent-suits, and, though at present there has been an increase in the number of civil suits at head-quarters, that need not count, as the bulk of the cases may be classed as settlement disputes now covered by section 87, Chota Nagpur Tenancy Act. I have no doubt that, when once these cases have been decided, the number will decrease considerably. The fact is that the absence of any reliable documentary evidence was the fruitful source of litigation in the district, both criminal and civil. The majority of the more important arose out of land disputes, and in the Civil Courts it was very much the same story. The Settlement Officers, by preparing a thorough and complete record of every inch of land in the country, have rendered the recurrence of such disputes difficult.

In saying that there has been a large decrease in the number of cases, I have not had the advantage of examining statistics, but my conclusions are based on the fact that the legal practitioners here, pleaders and mukhtears alike, have felt the effect of the decrease in the considerable reduction of their own incomes."

I have myself examined the statistics of civil suits, and the figures are given below. There is, as a matter of fact, a very marked decrease in the number of suits in Gumla and Khunti. At head-quarters there is a slight increase, due to the fact that settlement operations bring disputed issues to a head. But I have little doubt that suits about title to land will in a year or two show a marked decrease in the sadar subdivision also. The decrease in the volume of litigation is, however, mainly due to the simplification of the issues and the consequent ease with which the disputes can now be decided.

Mr. Peppé, the manager of the Chota Nagpur estate, stated his views thus :—

"Litigation has decreased enormously throughout the district as a result of the settlement operations. There is still ill-feeling in the villages, but no active strife. The landlords and raiyats know perfectly well that they cannot take possession of each other's lands any longer with impunity. The record of the raiyats' customary rights in jungle has, however, given an impetus to deforestation, and something ought to be done to put the jungle question on a satisfactory basis."

The Bara Lal of Palkot, who has frequently discussed local agrarian questions with me, is of opinion that the settlement records have definitely put a stop to the harassing litigation, which has ruined so many landlords and tenants. He lays special stress on the demarcation of villages, and the decisions of boundary disputes between zamindars, which, he says, in the past have been the cause of heavy expenditure in his own estate. He is now demarcating the boundaries of his villages and tenures, according to the cadastral maps.

The Revd. Dr. Nottrot, President of the German Evangelical Lutheran Mission, who has resided about forty years in the district, and has during that period been always recognized by the local officials as an authority on Chota Nagpur affairs, writes :—

"I am of opinion that the settlement has done immense good for the aborigines of Chota Nagpur, and my strong hope is that expensive and ruinous litigation has been permanently stopped. Of course members of the same family will quarrel here and there amongst themselves about their lands, but that no law will ever prevent.

The greatest boon, conferred by the settlement, is that the raiyats have now security in their holdings. I have already observed how busy many of them are improving their lands, making *bandhs*, planting fruit-trees, etc., etc., and, when I asked them why they had not done so before, they said, because there was no security, as the landlords would have taken them all for themselves. I think that a new epoch has been ushered in for our Mundas and Oraons, and that they owe to the settlement operations now concluded."

The Revd. Father Hoffmann, S.J., writes:—

“Having for 20 years resided in villages among the cultivators of Chota Nagpur, I have had the best opportunities of knowing their needs.

It is no exaggeration to say that the state of insecurity of nearly all kinds of tenures and titles to possession was so universal as to seriously depreciate the value of lands and cripple agriculture. This insecurity was not limited to the raiyats' holdings, but extended to the zamindars' as well. So much so, that it was a common belief that any man with a little audacity and a little money might take possession of what lands he pleased. The courts, having usually little or nothing to go upon but oral evidence, were in practice not merely powerless, but were in a way bound to assist rather than to check spoliation. This, I know, is a startling statement. But if any one feels inclined to regard it as exaggerated, let him first consider how easy it was for the unscrupulous, in the absence of all legal records of tribal rights and customs, in the absence of all legally fixed and demarcated boundaries of villages as well as fields, among an ignorant people, who could neither understand the court language, nor make themselves understood except through interpreters, how easy it was, I say, in these circumstances for them to prove in court any claim they might chose to make. This was all the more easy, as the officers, who administered the laws, were but very imperfectly acquainted with the local customs, the tribal laws of inheritance, and the land system of the three aboriginal tribes of Chota Nagpur. How and where could officials acquire this knowledge at a time, when no records of them existed, and when the ignorance of the difficult aboriginal languages rendered any real intercourse with the people difficult, if not impossible?

In their bewilderment and despair, the aborigines on several occasions were driven to attempts at risings and, in fact, always lived in a state of unrest and disaffection; and this only made their case all the worse, as it naturally tended to diminish and, indeed, alienate the sympathies of the Government officials.

In such a state of affairs, a general settlement was a necessity. Now that it has been completed, it has, in the course of a couple of years, furnished the plainest proof of its importance and utility. Examine the statistics of the Chota Nagpur courts, and compare the present volume of litigation with that which existed before the settlement! In a country where litigation is so justly considered a national calamity, the enormous decrease in the volume of litigation is one of the clearest illustrations of the beneficial effects of settlement operations.

..... I am of opinion that the Settlement Officers have not done full justice to the legitimate claims of the aborigines; but notwithstanding this fact, the settlement just concluded is undoubtedly the greatest benefit, which the British Government have so far conferred on Chota Nagpur.”

Mr. Hallet, I.C.S., who has been in charge of Gumla Subdivision for two or three years, wrote last year:—

“The rents being finally fixed, there is no longer any need to hear evidence as to the rate of rent and the area of the tenancy, and protracted hearings are thereby avoided. During the past year, the majority of the contested rent-suits have come from Sisai thana, where settlement operations are still pending. Other cases are not contested at all, or are speedily decided by reference to the record-of-rights, no attempt being made to rebut its correctness. The result is that the parties are saved from much trouble and expense: and the only people who complain are the mukhtears and pleaders, whose incomes are undoubtedly somewhat diminished.

With regard to the Civil Court work, the Munsiff of Gumla tells me that the majority of cases come from Chainpur, Raidih, and Ghaghra thanas. He has had few cases from Biru and the other thanas in which settlement operations were completed three or four years ago, and he, consequently, anticipates that after a year or so the Civil Court work will be extremely light. The settlement operations have also had effect in criminal work. Proceedings under section 145 show a considerable decrease in 1909-10. I am unable to give figures for paddy-cutting cases; but during the year, I have had few such cases from thanas, where the record was published more than a year ago.

The raiyats are well satisfied with the results of the operations; and, I have met inhabitants of Jashpur State, who envy their neighbours in Ranchi and express the wish that the operations should be extended to their country.”

325. Some statistics.—The table given below shows the number of suits to recover arrears of rent filed during the last eight years, and the number of appeals to the Deputy Commissioner:—

	1902-02.	1903-04.	1904-05.	1905-06.	1906-07.	1907-08.	1908-09.	1909-10.
Number of suits for arrears of rent.	2,058	1,420	1,208	1,376	1,820	1,282	1,672	1,927
Number of appeals ...	105	154	153	85	166	113	33	45
Percentage of appeals to number of suits.	5	11	12	5	9	9	2	2

The number of suits filed shows no marked variations. But the simplification in procedure and the comparatively uncontested character of the issues are clearly indicated by the remarkable diminution in the number of appeals during the last two years, *i.e.*, since the settlement records began to take effect in a considerable portion of the district.

The table given below shows the number of title suits regarding land filed in the Munsiffs' Courts during the last four years :—

Number of suits instituted in—	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.
Munsiff's Court, Khunti	244	111	91	70
" " Gumla	187	142	82	62
" " Ranchi	236	205	230	292

The Munsiff's Court at Khunti was established in 1906. Taking the number of suits filed in 1907, as the former standard, the Khunti returns show a decrease of 350 per cent., the Gumla returns a decrease of 225 per cent., and the Ranchi (head-quarters) returns an increase of 23 per cent. for the year 1910. The area included in Khunti subdivision came under settlement first, and the records were all finally published some years ago. Gumla was dealt with after Khunti. The records of the sadar subdivision (Ranchi) have not yet been completed from final publication; one, two, or three years must, therefore, elapse before the effect on litigation becomes marked.

The figures showing the numbers of appeals in rent and title suits instituted from Ranchi district in the Judicial Commissioner's Court are not available, as the returns are compiled for the division, and not for the district. The total number of appeals of all classes dropped in 1910, however, to 271 against an average of about 650 for the preceding four or five years.

This great decrease is due mainly, no doubt, to the appointment of a separate Sessions Judge for Manbhum and Singhbhum, to whom the jurisdiction in this class of appeals from these districts has also been transferred; but it is clear that the decrease in the volume of litigation about the incidents of tenancies and title to land in Ranchi district has had a considerable effect in bringing about this result.

Mr. Thomson, the Deputy Commissioner, kindly gave me permission to examine the records of the revenue and criminal cases appertaining to the sadar subdivision some months ago. I examined the records of the cases disposed of during the first-half of the year 1910, and find that the settlement records have had a remarkable effect. Eight years ago, I was much struck by the fact, when I came to the district, that litigation about land and the incidents thereof was regarded much in the light of a gamble. The vernacular expression "*khel ka bat*" was commonly applied to denote the results. In nearly all the cases, the records of which I examined, the settlement entries were accepted as binding by the parties, and, in all cases, the Courts had given effect to the settlement decisions. There are, of course, still numerous suits and proceedings. This must necessarily continue, as the settlement records cannot compel spendthrift jagirdars and raiyats to pay their dues punctually. Disputes about lands will also certainly arise. If this were not so, there would not be much need of an expensive and elaborate administration. The difference between the state of affairs, which exists to-day, and that which existed before the initiation of the settlement operations, is that suits can now be disposed of quickly after one or two adjournments with little expense to the parties and without much labour on the part of the Courts. In addition, the decisions, which are founded on findings, which are the results of extensive and prolonged local enquiries, are in accordance with facts, and are ordinarily, therefore, accepted without demur. I estimate that the labour involved in the disposal of revenue suits and proceedings throughout the district is now not more than one-fourth the amount it was when the settlement operations began; and the same is true, though perhaps in a less degree, with regard to the disputes about possession of lands. The burden of the Courts has been

thus enormously diminished, and there will be now no need, for many years to come, for a further extension of the subdivisional system. It is not suggested that these results are due to the excellence of the system under which the operations were conducted. The provisions of the Chota Nagpur Tenancy Act secure finality for several of the most important items of the records, and the operations, whether conducted by officers of the Settlement department or by any other trained agency, provided they were carried out with ordinary discretion and prudence by officers possessing some acquaintance with local agrarian conditions and basing their decisions on local enquiries, could not fail to produce similar effects.

It is not contended also that all parties are satisfied with the record-of-rights. There are some landlords who, no doubt, consider that the Settlement Officers have unduly interfered with what they consider their prescriptive rights, and there are missionaries who think that more might have been done to restore the ancient status of the cultivators. All parties, however, admit that they are bound to accept the results in all essentials, and there is a consensus of opinion that the burden of the administration has been enormously lightened.

326. *An acknowledgment.*—During the operations, the Settlement Officers received assistance and advice from all the officials who held administrative charges in the district. On behalf of Mr. Lister and myself, I wish to express our special indebtedness to the Hon'ble Mr. Slacke, and Mr. Gait, the Commissioners of the Division, Mr. Carnduff and Mr. Vincent, the Judicial Commissioners, and Mr. Maude and Mr. Stephenson, Deputy Commissioners.

I owe myself a special acknowledgment to the present Commissioner, Mr. McIntosh, the Deputy Commissioner, Mr. Thomson, and the Judicial Commissioner, Mr. Kingsford. Mr. Thomson became Deputy Commissioner at a period when the records were beginning to take effect, and it is to his administration of the district that the success of the settlement is largely due. I also desire, both on my own behalf and on behalf of all the officers serving under me, to express to Messrs. Maddox, Kerr, and McPherson, Directors of Land Records, and to Colonel Orichton, Director of Surveys, our gratitude for the consideration and help which we always received from them. We are also indebted to the European missionaries and several zamindars. The assistance and advice of the European missionaries, whose knowledge of the people and their customs is unrivalled, were always placed at our disposal. We owe a special measure of thanks to the Revd. Father Hoffman, S.J., and the late Revd. Mr. Kiefel of the German mission. Father Hoffman is the recognized authority on the language and the customs of the Mundas; and his deep insight into, and thorough knowledge of, the character of the aborigines, were invaluable. Among zamindars, I may specially mention Mr. Peppé, and the Bara Lal of Palkot. Mr. Peppé is the manager of the great Chota Nagpur estate, which is a model zamindari in this part of India.

327. *Notice of officers.*—It now remains for me to acknowledge the good services of the officers who were employed during the operations. Mr. Lister initiated and completed the operations in the Munda sub-division, the most difficult and complex part of the programme. To him is mainly due the tranquilization of that part of the country, and the cessation of agrarian strife among the Mundas. A list of the officers, who served in the Settlement department in Ranchi, is given in Appendix I. The great majority of them worked loyally and well; but I can only mention specially those whose industry and capacity rendered them specially prominent. Mr. J. D. Sifton, I.C.S., was in charge of the cadastral operations during two seasons, and officiated as Settlement Officer on two occasions. His mature judgment and good sense were always invaluable. Of the officers who were employed in the ordinary, but important, duties of cadastral survey, attestation, case work, etc., the following deserve special mention :—Mr. W. H. Nelson, I.C.S., Babu Jagendra Nath Pal, Mr. S. S. Day, Babu Rajani Kanta Sen, Babu Surendra Nath Sen, Babu Bhuban Mohan Chatterji, Mr. C. W. E. Connolly, Babu Chuni Lal Basu (Mansiff), Babu Hari Das Roy, Akhouri Gopi Kishore Lal, Mr. F. A. Alderson, Mr. H. McPherson, Babu Satkouri Pati Roy, and Mr. J. H. Murphy of the Survey of India.

APPENDIX I.

List of Officers employed in Ranchi Settlement.

Serial No.	NAME OF OFFICERS.	Designation.	PERIOD.			REMARKS.
			Year.	Month.	Days.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Mr. E. Lister, I.C.S. ...	Settlement Officer	4	2	17	
		Y. M. D. 3 3 0				
■	„ John Reid, I.C.S. ...	Settlement Officer	4	3	27	
		Covenanted Assistant Settlement Officer in charge 1 0 27				
		Settlement Officer 0 8 4				
3	„ J. D. Sifton, I.C.S. ...	Covenanted Assistant Settlement Officer in charge 1 2 20	1	10	24	
4	„ W. H. Nelson, I.C.S. ...	Covenanted Assistant Settlement Officer in charge.	...	9	4	
■	„ J. C. Leighton, I.C.S. ...	Ditto	...	9	2	
6	„ M. C. McAlpin, I.C.S. ...	Ditto	...	5	3	
7	„ B. A. Collins, I.C.S. ...	Ditto	...	3	27	
8	„ E. H. Berthoud, I.C.S. ...	Ditto	...	1	29	
9	Babu Jogendra Nath Pal	Assistant Settlement Officer	4	8	...	
10	„ Surendra Nath Sen	Ditto	4	7	■	
11	„ Rajani Kanta Sen	Ditto	4	1	■	
12	Mr. F. H. Alderson ...	Ditto	4	...	...
13	„ E. A. Oakley ...	Ditto	3	6	1	
14	Babu Hari Das Roy ...	Ditto	3	4	■	
15	Mr. H. McPherson ...	Ditto	2	10	1	
16	Maulvi Mohammad Abdus Salam	Ditto	■	11	5	
17	Mr. H. D. Van Grieken	Ditto	2	5	8	
18	Babu Nishi Kanta Chatterji	Ditto	2	4	13	
19	Mr. P. D. Gomes	Ditto	2	4	6	
20	Babu Bhuban Mohan Chatterji	Ditto	2	1	20	
21	Mr. Sorab S. Day	Ditto	2	...	26	
22	Babu Lalit Kumar Sen	Ditto	2	...	24	Non-gazetted.
23	„ Akhouri Gopi Kishore Lal	Ditto	2	...	16	
24	„ Braja Nath R. y	Ditto	1	10	15	
25	Mr. C. W. E. Connolly	Ditto	1	9	29	
26	Babu Satkouri Pati Roy	Ditto	1	9	27	
27	Mr. J. H. Murphy	Professional Adviser	1	7	18	
28	Babu Lakshmi Narain Patnaik	Assistant Settlement Officer	1	6	27	Munsiff.
29	Pandit Raj Ballab Misir	Ditto	1	6	25	Non-gazetted.
30	Babu Ramu Lal Varma	Ditto	1	6	22	
31	„ Chuni Lal Razu	Ditto	1	6	6	Munsiff.
32	Maulvi Kabiruddin Ahmad	Ditto	1	4	7	
33	Babu Srimohan Das Gupta	Ditto	1	3	23	
34	Maulvi Syed Mohammad Ismail	Ditto	1	2	12	Non-gazetted.
35	Mr. E. A. Guest	Ditto	1	2	10	
36	Babu Sarbari Kanta Gupta	Ditto	1	1	26	
37	„ Umesh Chandra Sil	Ditto	1	...	10	
38	Mr. M. O. Angelo	Ditto	1	...	9	Non-gazetted.
39	Babu Sailesh Nath Mukherji	Ditto	1	...	2	
40	„ Satish Chandra Sinha	Ditto	1	...	1	District Kanungo.
41	Maulvi Abdul Bari	Ditto	...	11	5	
42	Mr. P. L. Causley	Professional Adviser	...	10	27	
43	Babu Bipin Bibari Mukherji	Assistant Settlement Officer	...	9	27	Munsiff.
44	„ Satish Chandra Roy	Ditto	...	8	28	
45	„ Suresh Chandra Deb	Ditto	...	■	21	
46	„ Sarat Chandra Mazumdar	Ditto	...	■	11	
47	„ Iswari Prasad Singh	Ditto	...	7	28	
48	„ Amulya Krishna Dutt	Ditto	...	7	13	
49	Mr. H. W. Alderson	Ditto	...	7	...	Non-gazetted.
50	Babu Harihar Charan	Ditto	...	7	...	Munsiff.
51	Mr. J. F. Gantzer	Ditto	...	7	...	
52	Babu Nirode Krishna Roy	Ditto	...	6	27	
53	Mr. W. Raba	Ditto	...	6	27	
54	„ F. M. Hollow	Ditto	...	6	18	
55	Maulvi Abdul Kadir Khan	Ditto	...	6	14	
56	Babu Khidish Chandra Roy	Ditto	...	11	13	Non-gazetted.
57	Mr. B. C. Gasper	Ditto	...	6	13	
58	Babu Chandra Kumar Sen Gupta	Ditto	...	6	■	
59	Maulvi Amjad Ali	Ditto	...	11	4	
60	Mr. H. D. Christian	Ditto	...	6	4	
61	Babu Tarini Prasad Varina	Ditto	...	6	3	
62	Mr. E. S. Baldwin	Ditto	...	6	■	
63	Babu Ashutosh Mukherji	Ditto	...	6	...	Munsiff.
64	„ Surendra Nath Bose	Ditto	...	11	...	
65	„ Sarat Chandra Ganguly	Ditto	...	5	28	District Kanungo,
66	„ Jamini Mohan Chatterji	Ditto	...	■	18	
67	„ Satish Chandra Gupta	Ditto	...	5	11	
68	„ Akhoy Kumar Sen	Ditto	...	5	6	
69	„ Aswani Kumar Dutt	Ditto	...	4	27	
70	Mr. H. M. Shelverton	Ditto	...	4	9	
71	Maulvi Fazalur Rabaman	Ditto	...	4	■	
72	Mr. N. Bedford	Professional Adviser	...	4	...	
73	Babu Dhanukdhari Lal	Assistant Settlement Officer	...	3	...	
74	„ Upendra Nath Roy	Ditto	...	2	27	District Kanungo.
75	„ Nagendra Nath Bhattacharji	Ditto	...	■	26	Munsiff.
76	„ Mchini Mohan Senapati	Ditto	...	■	...	
77	Mr. Alfred Bose	Ditto	...	...	10	

APPENDIX

MILAN

Serial number.	THANA OR OUTPOST.	CROPPED					
		Dox.					
		Bladoi.	Aghani.	Rabi.	Total.	Doffasila (twice- cropped).	Total dox minus doffa- sila (6--7).
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	GUMLA SUBDIVISION.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.
1	Sisai	23,765 16	14,179 79	58 57	38,003 62	53 85	37,949 77
2	Palkot	10,469 83	6,848 26	15 32	17,333 41	8 00	17,325 41
3	Gumla	16,231 21	14,355 97	73 57	30,610 76	54 71	30,556 05
4	Ghaghra	14,470 76	9,162 83	317 15	23,950 74	194 68	23,756 06
5	Chainpur	16,758 27	12,169 96	104 16	29,032 39	63 25	28,969 14
6	Bandih	8,878 15	6,913 68	41 34	15,836 17	27 51	15,808 66
7	Kurdeg	11,764 49	6,773 08	45 47	18,583 04	34 70	18,548 34
8	Kochedega	20,671 23	18,872 35	23 91	39,566 49	11 89	39,554 61
9	Bishunpur	5,650 92	3,057 79	45 28	9,193 99	402 54	8,791 45
10	Dano	7,345 11	6,845 19	33 16	14,223 46	30 22	14,193 24
11	Kolebira	13,316 62	11,050 97	46 09	24,107 68	28 18	24,079 50
12	Basia	19,181 78	15,068 02	13 53	34,263 33	183 69	34,079 64
	Subdivisional total ...	168,497 63	125,247 89	1,219 55	295,005 07	1,198 21	293,806 86
	SADAR SUBDIVISION.						
1	Kuru	15,195 59	5,522 86	105 48	20,823 72	103 27	20,720 45
2	Bero	17,665 92	8,151 15	76 72	25,893 79	35 91	25,857 88
3	Barmu	6,511 83	3,702 43	62 33	10,276 59	39 34	10,237 25
4	Lapung	9,589 63	4,962 12	14 64	14,566 39	12 49	14,553 90
5	Silli	13,211 22	4,870 19	311 21	18,392 62	279 59	18,113 03
6	Ormanjhi	7,946 07	2,855 29	215 37	11,016 73	208 31	10,808 42
7	Angerá	7,795 23	4,951 72	205 26	12,952 21	194 83	12,757 38
8	Mándar	28,382 88	11,199 09	182 05	39,764 02	145 59	39,618 43
9	Ranchi	49,150 64	25,945 98	190 13	75,286 75	167 16	75,119 59
10	Lohardagá	46,877 00	18,083 61	188 14	65,148 75	157 53	64,991 22
	Subdivisional total ...	202,326 00	90,184 21	1,510 33	294,020 57	1,344 02	292,676 55
	KHUNTI SUBDIVISION.						
1	Sorahatu	17,146 91	11,444 63	327 76	28,919 56	275 88	28,643 68
2	Tamar	32,400 23	16,029 10	1,498 81	49,928 14	1,449 79	48,478 35
3	Bundu	9,031 47	5,597 05	231 52	14,830 03	221 64	14,608 39
4	Khunti	26,152 08	17,441 86	414 46	44,008 40	398 38	43,610 02
5	Ksrrá	13,255 42	8,529 09	71 49	21,855 00	41 15	21,813 85
6	Torpa	16,644 40	12,592 03	122 39	29,358 82	127 58	29,231 24
	Subdivisional total ...	114,609 47	71,533 84	2,666 43	188,809 73	2,514 42	186,295 31
	DISTRICT TOTAL ...	485,424 10	287,055 97	5,436 31	777,926 38	4,956 65	772,969 73

II.

KHASRA.

AREA.

TANZ.						Total of don and tanr <i>minus</i> total of Doffasila.	Other cropped area, e. g., mango groves, tea, pán, plantains, guavas, etc.
Bhadri.	Aghani.	Rabi.	Total.	Doffasila (twice cropped).	Total tanr <i>minus</i> Doffasila (12-13).		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.
66,070 48	13,702 23	3,348 96	83,121 67	91 37	83,030 30	125,980 07	2,287 78
29,202 96	6,266 96	838 57	36,308 48	82 85	36,225 63	53,551 04	952 ■
44,281 56	8,427 02	3,374 13	56,083 70	687 48	55,415 72	86,971 76	2,093 32
38,784 39	9,978 46	4,243 58	53,066 43	1,075 20	51,991 17	75,687 23	964 73
81,006 71	21,595 72	4,783 52	107,384 95	1,896 55	105,488 40	134,457 54	530 94
33,268 03	7,473 32	1,426 90	42,168 25	190 48	41,977 77	57,786 43	894 22
31,434 55	7,957 67	9,137 15	48,529 37	448 05	48,080 72	66,629 06	154 13
74,219 45	20,860 52	10,907 03	105,987 00	414 26	105,572 74	145,127 35	899 30
25,140 09	4,921 85	3,137 93	33,099 87	1,661 21	31,438 66	40,230 11	254 09
32,205 37	10,249 36	3,118 17	45,572 90	470 70	45,102 20	59,295 44	489 24
49,909 12	13,314 13	3,881 22	67,104 77	464 23	66,640 49	91,019 99	1,162 20
56,149 39	21,884 33	2,465 08	80,498 80	264 60	80,234 20	114,308 84	1,723 24
561,671 78	146,632 17	50,662 24	758,866 19	7,723 19	751,133 00	1,046,044 86	11,905 77
17,504 48	1,057 30	872 17	19,433 95	65 86	19,368 09	40,088 54	780 14
31,633 82	5,255 80	1,367 16	38,236 78	64 85	38,171 93	63,988 81	1,192 93
21,112 13	4,683 45	3,687 84	29,493 22	1,253 48	28,239 74	38,476 99	389 23
24,398 78	7,984 83	1,539 40	34,222 96	27 22	34,195 74	48,689 61	902 53
11,310 93	6,335 95	2,257 79	19,904 67	1,405 72	18,498 95	36,611 98	84 61
12,601 07	3,724 59	1,553 58	17,869 24	437 95	17,421 29	28,229 71	968 71
19,555 89	9,213 44	2,869 77	31,639 10	1,660 13	29,978 97	42,736 35	672 40
27,783 22	3,347 32	2,317 67	43,448 21	535 65	42,912 56	83,530 99	1,787 59
80,461 48	15,819 53	6,615 31	102,787 32	728 92	102,058 40	177,177 99	4,188 88
62,822 12	7,443 28	3,551 35	80,816 76	321 94	80,494 82	145,456 04	2,525 78
323,173 87	64,865 49	26,802 85	417,842 21	6,501 72	411,340 49	704,517 04	13,492 80
10,131 86	12,964 03	2,919 45	26,015 34	1,394 23	24,621 12	53,234 59	110 36
48,042 69	18,576 75	5,062 40	71,621 84	4,208 65	67,413 19	115,071 61	129 35
10,457 88	7,084 37	2,205 51	19,747 76	958 10	18,789 66	33,398 05	143 16
61,242 90	31,856 10	3,807 07	96,906 07	2,693 35	94,212 72	137,832 74	1,125 34
37,261 67	20,293 47	2,654 74	60,212 88	507 45	59,705 43	81,530 28	1,877 95
50,661 48	29,811 18	3,809 34	84,284 90	954 82	83,330 08	112,561 32	1,183 82
217,804 48	120,585 80	20,398 51	358,788 79	15,526 62	343,262 17	634,648 49	4,569 98
1,105,659 13	332,683 46	87,763 60	1,535,497 19	24,766 53	1,510,740 66	2,283,710 39	22,968 55

APPENDIX

Serial number.	THANA OR OUTPOST.	Total cropped area (15 + 16).	Current fallow.	CULTURABLE AREA OTHER THAN CURRENT			
				Old fallow.	Groves not fruit bearing, kharour and bamboos.	Culturable jungle.	Other kinds.
		17	18	19	20	21	22
	GUMLA SUBDIVISION.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.
1	Sisai ...	123,267 85	163 24	8,891 83	2,016 26	7,874 36	1,843 98
2	Palkot ...	54,603 62	167 22	3,901 72	1,646 26	19,311 27	499 99
3	Gumla ...	88,066 08	163 06	7,022 11	1,719 00	6,544 14	1,150 16
4	Ghaghra ...	76,651 96	34 95	6,365 27	729 38	4,707 99	650 11
5	Chainpur ...	134,968 48	161 88	7,435 00	122 35	12,097 42	1,854 18
6	Raidih ...	58,180 01	64 44	3,367 84	1,097 82	24,161 67	594 44
7	Kurdeg ...	66,783 19	195 28	7,636 73	2,013 12	35,417 76	945 67
8	Kochedega ...	146,026 65	413 38	8,092 13	3,266 97	58,593 90	1,055 11
9	Bishunpur ...	40,484 20	105 91	4,874 46	190 64	26,996 06	211 44
10	Bano ...	69,781 68	117 14	2,699 92	1,844 82	25,811 55	296 86
11	Kolebira ...	92,182 19	333 66	5,606 30	2,319 59	71,096 66	584 81
12	Basia ...	116,032 08	217 01	6,161 49	2,846 23	18,031 11	669 32
	Subdivisional total ...	1,066,960 63	2,397 17	71,565 46	19,840 43	310,632 53	10,246 67
	SADAR SUBDIVISION.						
1	Kuru ...	40,868 68	139 14	3,288 33	58 63	2,832 60	669 91
2	Bero ...	65,181 74	74 14	4,737 08	698 54	12,183 42	255 82
3	Burmu ...	38,866 22	80 64	2,538 17	32 63	22,382 91	486 09
4	Lapung ...	49,592 17	66 03	3,426 84	918 67	6,313 01	1,047 65
5	Silli ...	36,696 11	76 94	3,061 61	142 16	2,727 85	701 03
6	Ormanjhi ...	29,198 42	39 23	1,897 11	19 21	3,323 97	309 11
7	Angara ...	43,403 76	60 77	2,703 58	151 61	12,825 11	502 36
8	Mandar ...	84,318 58	266 68	7,482 04	304 75	18,491 61	586 67
9	Ranchi ...	181,366 87	404 33	17,912 03	678 81	12,384 99	2,532 17
10	Lohardaga ...	148,011 82	593 54	13,358 36	784 28	33,580 32	2,325 69
	Subdivisional total ...	717,509 84	1,741 23	61,406 66	3,789 23	126,346 67	9,367 89
	KHUNTI SUBDIVISION.						
1	Sonahatu ...	63,374 95	359 50	12,675 23	1,755 21	4,876 33	11 11
2	Tamer ...	116,300 86	467 20	17,967 86	1,060 03	69,676 07	4,044 11
3	Bundu ...	33,541 21	138 37	4,235 91	276 03	10,240 65	78 33
4	Khunti ...	138,958 08	225 14	11,508 70	2,461 03	19,146 68	348 11
5	Karai ...	63,398 23	253 64	7,360 07	1,563 41	14,304 50	316 11
6	Torpa ...	113,745 14	369 84	6,863 76	3,303 63	13,761 21	195 32
	Subdivisional total ...	639,218 47	1,813 11	60,591 63	10,423 24	132,605 44	5,078 46
	District total ...	2,313,678 94	6,953 09	193,663 65	34,062 90	563,984 64	24,692 92

FALLOW.		AREA NOT AVAILABLE FOR CULTIVATION.						
Total.	House sites.	Water.	Jungie.	Other kinds.	Total.	Total uncultivated (18+23+28).	Total area (17+29).	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	
20,626 42	623 ■	6,475 44	8,730 29	20,338 04	36,067 73	56,847 99	180,116 24	
26,353 24	210 44	2,448 57	40,884 07	18,861 36	62,404 44	87,929 90	142,433 52	
16,436 12	410 19	4,563 58	11,709 10	12,080 ■	28,753 53	45,352 71	139,417 79	
12,353 27	306 71	6,028 26	23,200 ■	10,575 58	43,111 05	55,769 27	132,421 23	
21,508 95	981 11	10,043 45	81,121 83	8,979 22	108,525 61	125,196 44	266,184 92	
29,221 67	196 51	3,649 16	27,021 50	8,534 ■	39,401 72	68,687 ■	123,868 48	
46,013 28	259 10	3,514 99	72,952 04	8,100 88	84,837 01	131,045 57	197,828 75	
71,007 11	504 44	7,516 91	98,289 25	15,508 62	121,314 23	193,334 71	339,261 36	
31,771 54	145 17	3,021 48	71,322 66	4,653 09	79,142 40	111,019 85	151,504 05	
80,653 14	260 51	3,076 80	31,419 40	10,481 21	45,237 72	76,008 00	135,732 68	
79,837 36	837 45	3,613 56	63,582 82	13,642 17	81,606 00	161,577 02	253,759 21	
27,677 89	452 43	5,699 04	19,968 12	19,164 02	45,283 61	73,188 51	189,220 59	
4,12,274 99	3,998 03	59,671 04	555,601 58	150,914 40	771,185 04	1,185,557 20	2,242,807 83	
6,849 47	243 96	1,805 63	8,854 33	4,204 43	15,108 75	22,097 36	62,966 04	
17,874 ■	314 00	1,582 52	8,273 24	3,991 22	14,160 98	32,110 02	97,291 76	
26,439 70	193 22	2,927 29	39,085 42	5,151 33	47,367 26	73,877 50	112,743 27	
10,736 07	185 55	1,875 61	6,843 42	5,583 16	14,432 83	25,264 93	74,857 10	
6,633 68	275 01	3,465 83	19,252 21	12,509 06	35,502 13	42,212 75	78,909 34	
5,550 65	148 93	1,187 50	17,135 42	3,030 80	21,502 65	27,092 52	56,290 94	
16,183 56	212 86	2,506 20	41,367 34	7,405 69	51,482 09	67,726 42	111,135 17	
26,815 07	476 55	2,340 14	9,280 ■	4,555 68	16,581 19	43,602 34	127,921 42	
33,508 50	1,020 19	7,701 99	38,156 13	24,348 14	71,226 45	105,139 28	286,506 15	
Unkhaspur municipal area ...							1,473 40	
							287,979 55	
50,348 85	856 00	7,857 51	32,142 ■	14,632 69	106,489 15	156,431 51	304,433 36	
200,910 45	3,926 37	39,250 14	270,314 78	55,412 19	392,903 48	595,555 16	1,314,538 40	
19,402 36	328 09	5,520 09	4,103 94	10,224 56	20,176 68	39,938 54	93,313 49	
92,738 50	845 52	7,316 17	19,579 43	71,410 94	99,152 06	192,357 73	308,553 62	
14,429 92	273 39	2,364 ■	9,855 95	5,019 98	17,523 00	32,491 29	66,032 50	
39,485 07	594 67	16,375 00	5,445 82	21,554 43	43,969 92	77,660 13	216,618 21	
23,549 00	320 ■	4,282 86	8,272 73	7,470 04	20,346 01	44,148 65	127,546 88	
24,113 ■	455 24	7,895 81	16,628 11	13,691 92	38,660 88	63,444 54	176,889 68	
208,098 67	2,816 29	43,744 41	63,895 ■	129,371 87	239,828 55	449,740 51	989,959 38	
821,284 11	10,740 68	136,655 59	890,812 34	366,898 46	1,403,917 07	2,231,153 27	4,541,832 21	
Add ...							1,473 40	
							4,548,305 61	

APPENDIX

CROP STATEMENT

		CEREALS						
Serial num- ber.	THANA OR OUTPOST.	RICE.					Wheat.	
		Bhadoi Don.	Aghani Don.	Tewa Don.	Gora rice.			
1	2	3	4	5	6		7	
		Gross.	Gross.	Gross.	Gross.	Net.	Gross.	Net.
	GUMLA SUBDIVISION.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.
1	Sesai ...	23,762 95	14,172 03	6 11	33,074 16	16,690 19	6 84	4 82
2	Palkot ...	10,336 72	6,656 35	...	8,522 80	3,250 18	14 49	11 95
3	Gumla ...	16,227 68	14,259 00	0 74	20,068 16	9,678 52	61 68	52 41
4	Ghaghra ...	14,462 79	9,135 32	6 14	20,359 91	8,325 87	313 61	221 18
5	Chainpur ...	16,727 65	12,036 06	3 03	31,006 67	12,459 06	93 27	71 46
6	Raidih ...	8,671 19	6,847 52	...	10,039 93	3,854 13	35 71	33 94
7	Kurdeg ...	11,750 12	6,728 15	0 94	11,410 69	5,413 76	19 71	17 03
8	Kochedega ...	20,223 85	18,262 25	1 57	21,608 32	10,129 33	10 43	10 17
9	Bishunpur ...	5,621 38	3,029 19	36 88	7,117 29	2,830 14	107 24	97 30
10	Bano ...	7,335 17	6,432 10	9 14	9,911 62	4,477 89	12 40	9 64
11	Kolebira ...	13,302 47	11,034 68	3 69	12,282 25	5,735 53	18 18	18 00
12	Basia ...	18,625 44	14,960 62	1 61	15,808 75	7,740 16	26 82	23 86
	Subdivisional total...	167,247 41	123,953 27	69 85	201,210 65	90,585 61	720 38	571 76
	SADAR SUBDIVISION.							
1	Kuru ...	15,193 60	5,521 92	20 79	7,638 54	6,103 30	61 72	55 84
2	Bero ...	17,663 66	8,146 83	10 55	13,658 55	11,339 49	3 51	3 06
3	Burmu ...	6,496 33	3,695 74	1 20	5,904 35	3,015 13	42 57	36 47
4	Lapung ...	9,586 42	4,892 86	...	11,231 56	6,175 19	2 47	1 93
5	Silli ...	13,197 35	4,847 41	12 75	3,973 97	1,874 46	4 24	4 24
6	Ormanjhi ...	7,943 16	2,333 28	19 57	4,617 35	2,771 92	41 11	41 35
7	Angara ...	7,793 18	4,944 15	78 45	4,539 43	2,520 32	0 35	0 35
8	Mandar ...	28,374 23	11,194 88	4 77	13,000 97	11,854 16	105 46	100 61
9	Ranchi...	49,187 90	25,919 50	17 35	28,083 72	19,926 06	44 27	43 04
10	Lohardaga ...	46,862 60	18,070 71	2 75	29,848 73	19,636 21	80 76	75 22
	Subdivisional total...	202,249 23	90,067 28	168 18	122,543 22	85,267 14	396 89	362 11
	KHUNTI SUB- DIVISION.							
1	Sonshatu ...	17,144 63	11,375 46	4 40	6,087 19	2,441 55	11 10	9 67
2	Tamar ...	32,384 14	15,972 74	86 82	20,466 57	9,641 18	119 43	98 08
3	Bunda ...	8,994 43	5,531 09	51 68	4,659 46	2,261 61	18 52	14 26
4	Khunti...	26,006 72	17,026 80	330 27	14,782 99	6,556 86	5 13	5 13
5	Karra ...	13,228 71	8,440 24	15 53	11,140 60	6,373 02	47 84	44 30
6	Torpa ...	16,592 93	12,434 75	34 24	12,161 38	5,707 06	8 79	8 39
	Subdivisional total...	114,351 71	70,781 08	522 94	68,298 59	32,981 28	210 81	179 83
	DISTRICT TOTAL ...	483,848 35	284,801 63	760 97	392,057 86	208,824 03	1,328 08	1,113 70

III.

(JINSWAR).

AND PULSES.

Barley.		Millet.		Gangai.		Mandua.		Maize.	
8		9		10		11		12	
Gross.	Net.	Gross.	Net.	Gross.	Net.	Gross.	Net.	Gross.	Net.
A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.
20 18	18 93	...	...	4 69	2 81	9,322 64	5,450 77	49 70	46 78
4 33	4 33	...	...	7 99	7 49	1,322 80	452 26	88 86	87 64
82 75	63 18	...	...	2 21	1 23	2,895 60	1,651 52	69 89	68 11
321 24	220 62	...	...	0 53	0 53	3,400 85	1,608 49	250 30	248 14
245 72	146 64	...	...	0 59	0 59	2,131 24	913 22	1,485 38	1,471 18
28 55	20 56	...	...	1 96	1 35	1,141 32	509 18	278 34	271 44
1 38	1 38	...	...	102 95	71 35	1,076 02	555 21	440 27	426 59
0 29	0 14	...	...	110 67	86 71	1,724 53	1,634 10	845 98	818 90
819 48	225 04	...	...	4 89	2 56	831 58	357 68	1,140 75	1,116 05
0 32	0 32	...	...	929 48	441 81	771 81	398 89	614 29	551 96
10 35	10 35	...	...	435 84	238 84	769 37	404 90	549 50	516 91
0 78	0 78	...	...	97 53	57 78	3,792 39	2,008 89	108 88	99 81
1,035 37	712 27	...	...	1,699 33	913 05	29,186 15	15,945 01	5,9 7 14	5,722 31
58 65	58 13	...	...	0 27	0 27	4,137 19	3 586 07	166 49	151 08
13 86	13 86	...	...	0 32	0 32	7,832 01	7,011 43	28 25	28 20
143 61	107 95	9 23	4 92	84 78	59 24	3,434 35	1,926 99	1,117 45	1,069 32
2 05	2 05	...	...	2 69	1 46	3,383 24	2,090 33	14 88	12 45
23 57	26 57	8 25	6 88	36 68	24 45	106 68	77 88	1,977 20	1,939 35
103 80	102 24	...	...	26 17	18 56	1,699 23	1,116 06	390 61	375 73
40 28	37 11	15 59	10 25	74 36	45 55	2,123 27	1,232 22	1,572 47	1,495 78
132 93	129 50	...	...	3 59	2 02	8,835 30	8,427 31	81 08	76 69
29 64	29 21	0 26	0 26	20 21	12 72	14,173 14	11,406 40	450 46	434 34
258 31	201 19	...	...	23 19	14 05	12,933 27	9,863 60	1,525 19	1,401 21
809 70	707 81	33 33	22 31	272 26	178 74	58,687 68	46,738 29	7,524 08	6,984 15
29 64	26 75	0 35	0 17	59 56	50 22	311 35	217 90	1,500 35	1,401 36
37 15	31 78	1 04	0 96	2,626 64	1,285 47	412 95	261 83	3,814 73	3,538 44
16 44	15 54	0 10	0 10	135 02	55 05	416 91	232 34	1,044 95	972 63
...	...	4 51	3 97	949 98	494 51	3,167 44	1,739 85	1,003 16	952 00
3 14	3 14	...	...	27 94	19 78	4,575 90	2,931 85	77 23	73 45
1 13	1 13	0 12	0 12	879 20	448 22	4,402 30	2,371 41	405 72	389 48
87 50	78 34	6 12	5 32	4,678 24	2,388 25	13,286 85	7,755 18	7,846 14	7,307 35
1,932 57	1,498 42	39 45	27 63	6,649 83	3,450 04	101,160 68	70,438 48	21,087 36	20,013 81

APPENDIX

CROP STATEMENT

Serial number.	THANA OR OUTPOST.	CEREALS AND PULSES.					
		Gram.		Gondli.		Urid	
		13		14		15	
		Gross.	Net.	Gross.	Net.	Gross.	Net.
	GUMLA SUBDIVISION.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.
1	Sesai ...	60 60	34 03	11,091 32	5,000 81	11,906 67	6,988 46
2	Palkot ...	69 09	48 11	15,306 41	5,709 24	3,970 08	1,724 73
3	Gumla ...	575 31	361 27	14,639 93	6,454 24	6,177 75	3,464 83
4	Ghaghra ...	957 87	588 05	9,402 94	3,849 09	4,913 97	2,327 03
5	Chainpur ...	724 35	380 00	41,010 71	15,524 24	4,707 81	1,996 43
6	Baidih ...	181 16	114 61	18,202 40	6,373 21	3,018 79	1,241 97
7	Kurdeg ...	692 37	394 98	18,239 07	5,823 24	4,447 43	2,159 37
8	Kochedega ...	637 27	321 82	41,653 04	17,969 66	8,808 16	4,866 24
9	Bishunpur ...	728 34	363 33	14,524 18	6,648 68	1,436 73	605 16
10	Bano ...	133 35	90 58	17,212 30	6,678 68	2,886 76	1,350 25
11	Kolebira ...	116 88	89 65	30,508 76	12,157 45	4,469 73	2,010 87
12	Basia ...	300 97	179 42	27,326 19	10,591 10	7,635 16	3,677 41
	Subdivisional total ...	5,187 57	2,964 85	254,211 66	101,711 35	61,378 59	32,903 19
	SADAR SUBDIVISION.						
1	Kuru ...	80 67	27 27	1,920 04	1,256 15	3,473 20	3,058 69
2	Bero ...	10 06	8 71	3,802 64	2,882 30	6,151 27	5,544 20
3	Burmu ...	573 99	413 81	8,167 36	3,544 39	2,223 31	1,200 60
4	Lapung ...	22 71	17 41	6,919 08	2,930 12	3,633 61	2,242 33
5	Silli ...	46 80	38 67	4,070 34	1,729 46	902 09	506 17
6	Ormanjhi ...	190 00	98 89	3,707 84	1,704 09	2,043 21	1,363 21
7	Angara ...	58 24	42 15	8,697 11	3,807 89	2,506 51	1,451 24
8	Mandar ...	198 24	178 42	7,964 99	6,218 20	7,381 10	7,101 24
9	Banohi ...	218 64	191 40	25,118 94	14,063 06	12,141 09	10,059 57
10	Lohardaga ...	153 91	106 70	18,133 68	6,511 04	11,796 70	9,328 64
	Subdivisional total ...	1,557 94	1,165 33	82,402 02	44,506 70	52,181 56	41,866 54
	KHUNTI SUBDIVISION.						
1	Sonabatu ...	228 38	153 67	2,323 77	1,187 15	486 08	349 01
2	Tamar ...	554 80	348 49	20,621 04	8,437 96	1,565 39	765 27
3	Bundu ...	126 22	87 20	9,512 43	1,432 39	636 59	300 50
4	Khunti ...	130 73	94 21	38,443 93	14,709 40	3,235 24	1,810 72
5	Karra ...	209 21	171 14	16,670 22	7,855 41	4,651 24	3,100 24
6	Torpa ...	304 72	191 72	30,738 47	12,593 50	3,494 66	1,752 22
	Subdivisional total ...	1,554 80	1,062 03	112,307 86	46,165 81	14,069 56	8,677 86
	DISTRICT TOTAL ...	8,200 37	5,182 21	448,921 53	192,383 85	130,629 71	82,247 27

III.

(J_{NSWAB}).

OILSEEDS.									
Other food-grains including pulse.		Linseed.		Til or gingili.		Sarguja.		Others.	
16		17		18		19		20	
Gross.	Net.	Gross.	Net.	Gross.	Net.	Gross.	Net.	Gross.	Net.
A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.
4,798 44	2,589 71	0 94	0 94	61 55	■ 30	9,188 83	4,505 29	3.7 11	284 49
1,863 87	612 93	7 85	4 35	53 89	32 57	4,186 60	1,573 60	188 17	160 16
2,491 ■	1,342 40	5 22	2 31	71 ■	45 22	6,187 22	2,938 ■	825 40	767 ■
2,546 66	1,191 84	3 18	2 31	39 65	23 ■	7,707 ■	3,295 74	1,405 29	1,189 41
3,787 72	1,576 ■	4 48	3 79	51 87	26 ■	16,361 57	6,695 61	2,787 ■	2,695 61
2,212 30	891 24	2 09	2 09	59 ■	35 61	5,076 25	1,907 97	499 ■	449 ■
6,500 41	3,099 06	32 92	27 12	5,230 46	2,698 04	2,645 20	1,261 53	305 61	283 ■
12,223 92	6,232 52	31 58	23 94	5,018 47	3,366 ■	8,849 13	4,663 04	268 86	224 05
1,524 71	698 08	1 72	1 32	19 70	7 93	3,693 32	1,441 ■	1,507 17	1,430 69
6,949 ■	3,127 20	...	...	1,484 ■	727 45	2,817 62	1,281 41	326 ■	288 92
8,190 83	3,777 61	0 55	0 55	2,207 ■	1,096 72	5,446 05	2,382 ■	185 88	151 ■
7,275 69	3,366 81	2 67	2 67	78 29	49 57	14,230 32	5,644 14	318 96	286 ■
59,746 43	28,396 34	98 26	70 22	14,362 07	8,143 81	86,289 79	37,444 80	8,916 25	8,102 48
780 22	603 80	1 35	1 35	6 66	3 73	622 86	425 95	69 05	66 45
1,476 28	1,178 83	...	...	5 10	3 41	4,297 89	3,177 ■	■ 83	79 19
1,369 ■	765 27	33 82	23 30	319 ■	167 21	4,305 61	2,003 15	1,469 39	1,376 81
2,899 97	1,551 36	1 39	0 69	60 43	34 46	5,745 07	2,912 ■	88 15	79 ■
4,356 71	2,333 58	...	...	40 38	20 69	2,919 05	1,342 30	1,488 86	1,466 74
734 00	470 97	6 28	3 88	4 40	2 82	3,610 ■	1,854 ■	559 77	533 13
2,249 74	1,062 60	0 45	0 21	50 33	21 88	7,854 ■	3,350 11	1,921 47	1,812 41
1,455 84	1,313 ■	59 10	58 04	18 05	13 37	3,089 63	2,363 77	504 50	484 79
5,377 27	3,878 ■	10 63	9 60	53 63	32 66	13,893 18	9,069 64	1,096 33	1,041 75
3,215 59	1,875 59	2 49	1 51	67 28	41 14	4,576 35	2,638 42	555 31	502 31
23,865 48	16,034 12	115 41	98 58	625 64	341 27	50,864 28	29,177 90	7,858 66	7,441 93
7,410 11	4,288 ■	2 43	1 74	235 08	127 72	6,859 15	3,284 04	1,093 77	992 21
13,155 56	6,682 13	16 00	10 55	174 62	92 88	5,933 14	2,783 80	2,454 16	2,190 43
5,022 ■	2,393 63	5 44	3 96	200 89	90 35	3,051 92	1,412 95	823 95	698 60
10,193 78	4,263 29	1 66	0 97	■ 54	26 92	22,822 ■	9,599 83	995 ■	893 70
3,328 81	1,908 80	9 12	8 03	19 60	14 10	17,619 61	9,076 94	450 80	409 73
8,762 79	3,982 21	0 65	0 65	563 86	258 81	19,322 ■	8,680 33	602 46	495 71
47,864 98	23,498 31	35 30	26 90	1,245 91	610 78	73,609 44	34,237 89	6,420 50	5,670 ■
131,476 89	66,928 77	243 97	194 77	16,253 62	9,995 86	212,763 51	100,869 ■	23,175 41	21,314 ■

APPENDIX

CROP STATEMENT

Serial Num- ber.	THANA OR OUTPOST.	Spices.		SUGAR.				FIBRE.			
				Sugarcane.		Others.		Cotton.		Jute and others.	
		21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
		Gross.	Net.	Gross.	Net.	Gross.	Net.	Gross.	Net.	Gross.	Net.
	GUMLA SUBDIVISION.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. L.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.
1	Sesai ...	93 51	36 70	...	...	...	...	2,327 74	1,240 69	27 78	19 17
2	Palkot ...	36 77	36 46	...	...	...	...	1,192 06	505 87	26 06	19 02
3	Gumla ...	36	47 77	0 06	0 06	...	...	1,369 69	740 27	13 24	4 73
4	Ghaghra ...	56 41	50 08	...	...	...	...	1,162 58	532 13	08	16 04
5	Chainpur ...	55 98	50 12	...	...	...	...	2,823 45	1,133 22	45 01	18 89
6	Baidih ...	24 99	21 55	...	...	...	...	1,165 11	450 81	11 67	72
7	Kurdez ...	39 08	37 65	...	...	...	...	2,173 29	1,083 16	10	6 18
8	Kochedega ...	127 46	115 63	...	...	...	...	4,568 87	2,378 18	22	11 20
9	Bisbunpur ...	27 73	14	0 92	0 92	...	...	636 04	254 20	8 87	3 53
10	Bano ...	15 77	14 32	...	...	...	...	1,254 73	563 70	23	13 27
11	Kolebira ...	17 84	15 06	...	...	...	...	1,593 16	72 15	21 03	12 06
12	Basia ...	84 48	80 23	...	...	...	...	2,899 59	1,389 25	49 48	95
	Subdivisional total	628 73	578 70	0 98	0 98	...	...	23,164 55	10,996 63	286 53	167 76
	SADAR SUBDIVISION.										
1	Kuru ...	46 83	44 84	...	...	0 59	0 59	177 73	145 68	19 38	18 31
2	Bero ...	75 80	73 83	...	...	...	...	368 26	297 36	32 85	27 07
3	Burma ...	50 54	48 93	0 44	0 44	...	...	38 60	18 21	23	16
4	Lapung ...	17 57	16 00	...	...	...	...	798 03	477	30 49	21 51
5	Silli ...	32 51	30 75	31 53	25 48	...	...	30 49	15 39	7 40	7 24
6	Ormanjhi ...	53 99	51 04	...	...	...	...	1 88	0 97	430 01	429 09
7	Angara ...	12 74	11 75	2 88	2 19	...	...	12 82	5 60	301 20	300 08
8	Mandar ...	143 94	142 07	...	...	...	...	73 89	5	28 61	25 46
9	Ranchi ...	157 03	194 33	2 28	2 28	...	...	35 45	25 05	135 56	123 49
10	Lohardaga ...	225 28	218 54	0 04	0 04	...	...	1,223 83	875 64	43 54	34
	Subdivisional total.	856 23	827 06	37 17	30 43	0 59	0 59	2,760 97	1,321 20	1,052 95	1,023 23
	KHUNTI SUBDIVISION.										
1	Sonahatu ...	73 33	62 92	126 54	85 51	...	...	365 09	188 33	5	3 82
2	Tamar ...	129 58	101 10	108 20	81 05	...	...	239 12	113 12	20 48	14
3	Bundu ...	15 92	12 16	43 38	32 43	...	...	54 10	27 20	36	2 21
4	Khunti ...	11 21	9 61	7 90	7	...	...	551 41	449 40	192 60	170 08
5	Karra ...	22 04	20	0 45	0 30	...	...	832 06	478 85	54 30	38 12
6	Torpa ...	40 18	33 34	4 95	4 17	...	...	1,906 68	978 08	75 31	51 02
	Subdivisional total...	292 26	239 26	291 43	211 34	...	...	4,318 46	2,234 98	361 25	280 21
	DISTRICT TOTAL ...	1,777 21	1,645 02	929 51	742 75	0 59	0 59	30,743 98	15,152 81	1,690 73	1,451 20

III—continued.

(Jinsuar)—continued.

DYES.		DRUGS AND NARCOTICS.				Mango groves, pan, plantain, guavas, &c.	Garden produce, orchards other than column 31.		MISCELLANEOUS.			
Indigo.		Coffee	Tea.	Tobacco.	Food.							
					Potato.				Yams.			
26	27	28	29	30		31	32		33		34	
Gross.	Gross.	Gross.	Gross.	Gross.	Net.	Gross.	Gross.	Net.	Gross.	Net.	Gross.	Net.
A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. P.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.
...	0 13	0 13	2,357 78	672 72	657 82	8 01	7 87	151 54	■ 22
...	929 78	349 20	334 76	...	...	54 72	28 00
...	2,093 32	583 50	573 43	0 21	0 21	35 06	19 74
...	0 02	0 02	964 73	959 90	347 83	11 50	11 00	20 98	10 25
...	0 35	0 35	530 90	329 61	291 03	2 36	2 31	31 69	15 01
...	394 22	274 43	260 77	...	...	23 96	16 34
...	0 70	0 70	154 13	244 69	241 06	...	...	22 07	14 41
...	0 39	0 39	899 30	468 34	467 54	0 86	0 71	91 90	59 53
...	253 49	73 26	70 88	1 04	1 04	2 95	1 81
...	7 54	7 22	459 24	191 90	181 78	...	...	77 72	52 10
...	5 25	5 15	1,162 20	258 31	252 19	1 37	1 37	74 ■	49 36
...	6 24	6 09	1,714 26	797 62	773 48	1 29	1 29	346 ■	189 62
...	20 62	20 05	11,873 35	4,612 48	4,442 07	26 44	25 80	938 19	559 ■
...
...	0 09	0 09	780 14	288 92	281 45	26 61	26 61	14 ■	12 39
...	1,192 93	374 21	371 60	23 14	23 14	23 72	20 98
...	0 61	0 61	339 23	143 87	135 49	61 57	60 58	25 49	16 41
...	0 18	0 18	901 98	143 27	840 10	0 78	0 78	52 ■	34 55
...	7 75	7 62	84 61	167 26	165 04	0 54	0 54	4 48	3 49
...	...	0 96	322 ■	0 51	0 51	218 63	210 37	203 80	27 85	27 85	45 63	40 87
0 58	0 58	...	255 10	1 78	1 78	121 69	127 40	121 49	2 30	2 30	3 93	3 16
...	1,787 ■	409 83	404 48	106 62	106 60	94 24	89 55
...	...	1 33	1,509 86	0 11	0 11	2,677 69	1,263 81	1,241 98	346 83	344 41	306 95	257 67
3 80	3 55	...	...	...	...	2,625 69	863 76	848 54	244 02	242 95	243 51	207 55
4 38	4 13	2 29	2,087 81	11 03	10 90	10,680 18	4,192 70	4,113 97	845 15	840 66	814 28	687 02
...
...	19 38	17 71	110 36	172 01	165 49	2 86	1 99	15 ■	13 10
...	282 90	232 97	129 35	312 45	299 25	1 ■	1 46	68 52	47 70
...	9 59	9 44	143 16	158 75	141 04	7 98	5 46	■ 29	21 19
...	6 28	0 94	0 94	1,119 06	508 44	476 61	4 10	3 95	84 72	56 66
...	...	12 44	326 12	0 13	0 13	1,589 33	512 61	476 54	12 14	10 82	118 93	■ 81
...	7 95	6 ■	1,183 82	645 54	600 07	9 25	5 61	244 78	156 00
...	...	12 44	332 40	320 89	267 69	4,225 08	2,329 80	2,149 50	37 84	29 29	163 87	375 46
4 38	4 13	14 73	2,420 ■	352 54	318 64	26,778 ■	11,134 98	10,705 54	902 44	895 75	2,321 34	1,621 87

APPENDIX III—concluded.

CROP STATEMENT (JINWAR)—concluded.

Serial number.	THANA OR OUTPOST.	Grand Total.		Area cropped more than once.		Net cropped area.	
		16		36		17	
		Gross.	Net.	Gross.	Net.	Gross.	Net.
	GUMLA SUBDIVISION.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.
1	Sesai ...	123,413 07	83,936 80	146 23	135 47	123,267 86	83,860 11
2	Palkot ...	54,594 47	32,631 38	90 11	74 94	54,503 61	32,456 44
3	Gumla ...	88,787 77	60,863 36	722 69	550 59	88,065 08	60,302 77
4	Ghaghra ...	77,921 90	48,628 57	1,269 94	1,006 07	76,651 80	47,628 59
5	Chainpur ...	136,948 21	74,573 98	1,959 81	1,678 11	134,988 48	72,896 44
6	Raidih ...	58,398 01	32,605 51	217 99	185 65	58,180 66	32,319 11
7	Kurdeg ...	67,266 11	42,229 75	483 35	361 07	66,783 19	41,868 71
8	Kochedega ...	146,452 79	92,746 14	426 14	312 07	146,026 63	92,434 07
9	Dishunpur ...	42,547 15	24,120 39	2,083 75	1,743 79	40,464 20	22,376 60
10	Bano ...	60,385 60	34,671 44	600 11	389 00	59,784 68	34,282 44
11	Kolebira ...	92,674 11	55,192 15	492 46	315 89	92,182 19	54,873 26
12	Baria ...	116,485 17	71,508 81	453 29	299 80	116,032 08	71,204 01
	Subdivisional total ...	1,066,777 03	659,543 38	8,826 40	7,061 11	1,058,950 63	648,490 55
	SADAR SUBDIVISION.						
1	Kuru ...	41,037 81	37,486 90	169 13	168 36	40,868 64	37,318 11
2	Bero ...	65,282 11	59,153 77	100 76	98 89	65,181 74	59,054 11
3	Burma ...	40,159 04	26,593 05	1,592 82	1,138 23	38,566 22	25,454 82
4	Lapnag ...	49,691 18	34,313 11	11 71	32 91	49,659 17	34,280 30
5	Silli ...	39,381 90	29,789 11	1,685 11	1,610 11	36,696 59	28,179 05
6	Ormanjhi ...	29,844 18	22,609 23	646 26	623 45	29,198 42	21,986 48
7	Angara ...	45,263 71	39,383 20	1,854 11	1,743 67	43,408 76	38,639 63
8	Mandar ...	84,999 82	80,511 37	691 24	671 40	84,318 11	79,839 17
9	Ranchi ...	182,262 11	151,651 12	896 08	838 11	181,366 27	150,812 56
10	Lohardaga ...	149,497 29	122,086 15	479 47	444 17	148,911 82	121,641 98
	Subdivisional total ...	726,355 68	594,587 18	7,845 74	7,418 11	717,509 84	587,168 21
	KHUNTI SUB-DIVISION.						
1	Sonabata ...	55,045 11	43,690 68	1,870 10	1,543 04	53,374 95	42,147 11
2	Tamar ...	121,679 11	85,623 89	5,478 47	4,629 11	116,200 86	81,003 96
3	Bundu ...	34,720 11	24,982 65	1,179 74	1,060 21	33,541 21	23,922 44
4	Khunti ...	142,039 81	86,816 22	3,081 73	1,997 63	138,958 08	84,818 69
5	Karra ...	89,946 11	11,607 89	548 10	414 69	89,398 11	66,173 20
6	Torpe ...	114,827 54	69,316 55	1,082 40	788 11	113,745 14	67,532 90
	Subdivisional total ...	552,259 51	366,047 88	13,041 04	10,449 05	539,218 47	356,598 83
	DISTRICT TOTAL ...	2,243,392 12	1,614,177 39	29,713 11	24,910 80	2,213,678 11	1,589,267 59

APPENDIX IV.

Agricultural stock list.

Serial No.	NAME OF THANA OR OUTPOST.	Bulls and bullocks.	Cows.	Male buffaloes.	Cow buffaloes.	Calves including buffalo calves.	Sheep.	Goats.	Horses and ponies.	Mules and donkeys.	Camels.	Plough.	Carts.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	GUMLA SUB-DIVISION.	Nos.	Nos.	Nos.	Nos.	Nos.	Nos.	Nos.	Nos.	Nos.	Nos.	Nos.	Nos.
1	Sisai ...	12,363	7,853	3,229	2,254	6,404	1,360	13,473	347	18	...	10,444	138
2	Palkot ...	6,033	6,711	1,669	1,529	5,843	407	8,504	199	11	...	4,364	7
3	Gumla ...	13,984	7,327	2,002	1,633	5,893	1,123	10,766	327	18	...	7,552	116
4	Ghaghra ...	12,234	6,615	1,048	1,279	5,602	1,554	7,176	210	7	...	5,319	64
5	Chainpur ...	19,865	11,140	1,713	2,250	11,100	1,334	13,680	639	1	...	10,772	108
6	Raidih ...	7,667	6,359	1,407	1,107	6,262	622	10,058	668	16	...	4,569	19
7	Kurdeg ...	6,739	7,120	1,369	1,122	6,072	1,603	8,699	157	13	...	4,566	34
8	Kochedega ...	15,387	17,487	3,101	2,860	13,291	4,589	17,331	617	19	...	11,218	120
9	Bishunpur ...	6,760	4,259	418	1,245	4,261	302	4,361	73	...	...	3,725	11
10	Bano ...	6,879	6,601	1,113	730	5,289	1,649	10,041	117	...	...	4,330	149
11	Kolebira ...	10,053	11,230	1,391	1,331	9,540	2,642	12,573	340	19	...	6,893	124
12	Basia ...	12,557	12,989	2,713	2,213	9,931	2,387	14,023	344	10	...	9,247	140
	Subdivisional total	130,541	105,671	21,263	19,553	89,678	20,423	130,685	3,738	172	5	83,069	1,023
	SADAR SUB-DIVISION.												
1	Kuru ...	7,711	2,362	1,927	464	2,397	432	4,615	231	4	...	4,246	64
2	Bero ...	8,469	6,946	6,219	677	4,593	1,444	8,436	226	...	...	6,879	156
3	Burmu ...	3,631	4,448	2,018	592	3,578	603	5,217	188	9	...	3,555	35
4	Lapung ...	5,412	5,034	1,958	902	3,844	1,595	5,941	123	1	...	3,789	33
5	Silli ...	7,200	6,538	4,572	1,261	7,867	7,458	5,023	203	8	...	5,616	1,260
6	Ormenjhi ...	4,148	3,339	2,254	316	2,899	860	6,227	109	14	...	3,188	549
7	Angara ...	5,314	6,121	3,820	756	6,474	1,352	13,044	89	2	...	4,402	633
8	Mandar ...	13,737	7,596	4,005	670	4,505	1,432	10,094	655	66	...	9,933	306
9	Ranchi ...	22,655	16,904	14,638	1,789	12,168	8,467	22,769	710	21	...	20,191	2,820
10	Lohardaga ...	29,532	9,279	6,009	8,762	9,729	1,291	16,783	643	57	...	15,075	115
	Subdivisional total	107,809	67,867	47,410	16,199	58,354	24,934	97,546	3,237	161	...	76,774	6,274
	KHUNTI SUB-DIVISION.												
1	Sonahatu ...	7,483	6,980	4,238	1,349	8,571	4,430	11,046	132	13	...	5,449	1,453
2	Tamar ...	17,894	15,478	7,154	1,831	13,881	6,441	31,544	241	10	...	13,145	2,184
3	Bundu ...	5,955	5,362	2,329	824	5,671	2,153	12,142	93	1	...	4,155	689
4	Khuoti ...	19,252	16,761	5,330	2,628	13,593	7,021	31,664	365	5	...	13,852	1,808
5	Karra ...	7,778	7,788	3,001	891	6,044	2,537	9,897	216	2	...	6,472	795
6	Torpa ...	8,475	8,284	2,357	1,117	5,806	2,436	10,037	164	...	...	6,882	566
	Subdivisional total	66,837	60,553	24,409	8,640	59,366	25,068	106,330	1,211	31	...	49,955	7,495
	GRAND TOTAL FOR DISTRICT...	305,187	234,191	93,082	44,392	201,398	70,424	334,561	8,186	354	5	209,788	14,792

Statistics of Landlords

Serial number.	NAME OF THANAS.	TOTAL CULTIVATED AREA OF THANAS.			CULTIVATED AREA OF VILLAGE'S MANJHIAS AND BETKHATS WERE MADE.	
		Don.	Tanr.	Total.	Don.	Tanr.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	GUMLA SUBDIVISION.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.
1	Sisal ...	37,949 77	86 918 08	123,267 86	36,777 01	82,897 51
2	Palkot ...	17,325 41	37,178 21	54,503 62	11,256 23	22,971 36
3	Gumla ...	30,556 04	57,509 04	88,065 08	22,785 64	43,441 21
4	Ghaghra ...	23,756 06	52,895 90	76,651 96	18,607 17	36,798 19
5	Chainpur ...	28,969 14	106,019 34	134,988 48	Nil	Nil
6	Raidih ...	15,808 66	42,371 99	58,180 65	11,101 96	26,737 20
7	Kurdeg ...	18,548 34	48,234 85	66,783 19	Nil	Nil
8	Kochedega ...	39,554 61	1,66,472 04	146,026 65	Nil	Nil
9	Bishunpur ...	8,791 45	31,692 75	40,484 20	3,328 86	12,977 21
10	Bano ...	14,193 24	45,591 44	59,784 68	13,842 99	43,678 96
11	Kolebira ...	24,379 50	67,802 69	92,182 19	13,620 05	32,891 03
12	Basia ...	34,074 64	81,957 44	116,032 08	32,003 83	76,270 12
	Total ...	293,906 86	763,043 77	1,056,950 63	163,223 74	378,163 11
	SADAR SUBDIVISION.					
1	Kura ...	20,720 45	20,148 23	40,868 68	20,549 91	18,755 04
2	Bero ...	25,816 58	39,364 86	65,181 74	25,492 58	38,574 75
3	Burru ...	10,237 25	28,628 97	38,866 22	9,487 99	26,010 33
4	Lapung ...	14,493 90	35,098 27	49,592 17	13,386 35	31,035 82
5	Silli ...	18,113 03	18,583 56	36,696 59	13,697 44	12,626 86
6	Ormanjhi ...	10,808 42	18,390 00	29,198 42	10,691 06	18,240 61
7	Angara ...	12,767 33	30,651 37	43,408 76	10,578 53	26,294 54
8	Mandar ...	39,618 43	44,700 15	84,318 58	38,753 62	43,920 75
9	Banchi ...	75,119 59	106,247 28	181,366 87	66,286 97	93,428 88
10	Lohardaga ...	64,991 22	83,020 60	148,011 82	57,967 59	74,893 32
	Total ...	292,876 56	424,833 29	717,509 84	266,542 04	384,840 93
	KHUNTI SUBDIVISION.					
1	Sonahatu ...	28,643 47	24,731 48	53,374 95	Nil	Nil
2	Tamar ...	48,478 35	67,722 51	116,200 86	Nil	Nil
3	Bundu ...	14,608 39	18,932 82	33,541 21	Nil	Nil
4	Khunti ...	43,310 02	95,105 48	138,715 50	30,765 60	64,712 98
5	Kurra ...	21,814 86	61,583 38	83,398 23	15,044 68	40,831 15
6	Torpa ...	29,231 11	84,513 90	113,745 14	23,594 14	65,084 62
	Total ...	186,385 32	352,589 57	538,975 89	69,404 42	170,629 75
	DISTRICT TOTAL	772,969 73	1,540,466 63	2,313,436 36	499,470 20	933,633 79

* In some cases slight alterations have been subsequently made in janch. These

*privileged lands.**

IN WHICH ENQUIRIES	CULTIVATED AREA OF VILLAGES IN WHICH ENQUIRIES REGARDING PRIVILEGED LANDS WERE MADE.			AREA DEMARCATED AS MANJHIHIS.		
	Don.	Tanr.	Total.	Don.	Tanr.	Total.
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.
119,174 84	1,172 76	2,920 25	4,093 01	2,178 26	2,698 66	4,876 92
84,227 59	6,069 18	14,206 85	20,276 03	1,035 47	777 77	1,813 24
66,226 85	7,595 74	14,124 65	21,720 39	1,960 03	2,454 95	4,414 98
55,405 36	5,148 89	16,097 71	21,246 60	1,436 55	1,414 42	2,850 97
Nil	28,925 98	106,004 97	134,930 95	Nil	Nil	Nil
37,839 16	4,706 70	15,634 79	20,341 49	939 09	1,278 25	2,217 34
Nil	18,548 34	48,234 55	66,783 19	Nil	Nil	Nil
Nil	39,554 61	106,472 04	146,026 65	Nil	Nil	Nil
16,306 07	5,462 10	18,715 64	24,178 13	34 26	1 16	35 42
57,521 95	350 25	1,012 48	2,262 73	1,169 32	1,031 59	2,201 31
46,411 08	10,859 45	34,911 66	46,771 11	1,070 12	806 72	1,876 84
105,273 95	2,070 81	5,687 32	7,758 13	3,744 08	3,843 36	7,587 44
641,682 85	130,465 30	384,923 11	516,388 41	13,567 18	14,307 28	27,874 46
40,304 95	170 54	993 19	563 73	825 98	390 69	1 216 67
64,067 50	324 30	790 08	1,114 38	1,449 00	812 18	2,261 18
35,498 32	749 26	2,618 64	3,367 90	454 24	418 81	873 05
44,372 17	1,167 55	4,062 45	5,220 00	1,071 39	1,798 59	2,869 98
26,324 30	4,415 59	5,956 70	10,372 29	Nil	Nil	Nil
28,931 67	117 36	149 39	266 75	445 46	63 87	509 33
36,873 07	2,179 85	4,357 83	6,537 68	281 35	71 82	353 17
82,674 37	864 81	779 40	1,644 21	2,096 36	874 47	2,970 11
159,775 85	8,832 57	12,758 40	21,591 02	2,819 32	1 022 80	3,842 12
132,682 91	7,023 63	8,127 28	15,150 91	3,012 34	1,804 91	4,817 25
651,682 97	25,835 51	39,993 36	65,828 87	12,455 44	7,258 14	19,713 58
Nil	21,084 43	20,359 84	41,444 27	Nil	Nil	Nil
Nil	35,232 06	28,450 53	64,682 99	Nil	Nil	Nil
Nil	9,871 71	11,663 50	21,535 21	Nil	Nil	Nil
95,478 58	12,728 85	30,111 22	42,840 07	1,371 51	604 11	1,976 15
56,875 83	6,398 66	19,385 55	25,784 21	2,134 25	665 48	2,799 73
88,679 76	5,937 10	19,428 28	25,365 38	2,896 11	1,644 53	4,540 59
240,034 17	92,252 81	129,399 32	221,652 13	6,401 82	2,914 95	9 316 77
1,453,103 99	248,553 62	5,54,315 79	802,869 41	32,424 44	24,480 37	56,904 81

alterations have been incorporated in the return "abstract of tenancies." (Appendix VI.)

APPENDIX

Statistics of Landlords,

Serial number.	NAMES OF THANAS.	AREA RECORDED AS PRIVILEGED.			TOTAL AREA OF PRIVILEGED LANDS OF BOTH CLASSES.		
		Don.	Tanr.	Total.	Don.	Tanr.	Total.
		16	16	17	18	19	20
	GUMLA SUBDIVISION.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.
1	Sisni ...	24 87	74 39	99 26	2,203 13	2,773 05	4,976 18
2	Palkot ...	557 11	702 77	1,260 00	1,592 70	1,480 54	3,073 24
3	Gumla ...	312 76	631 85	934 61	2,272 79	3,076 80	5,349 59
4	Ghaghra ...	443 11	755 55	1,199 27	1,880 27	2,169 97	4,050 24
5	Chainpur ...	2,439 27	4,215 02	6,654 29	2,469 27	4,215 02	6,684 29
6	Raidih ...	217 46	425 22	642 68	1,155 55	1,703 47	2,860 02
7	Kurdeg ...	1,639 76	2,358 66	3,998 42	1,639 76	2,358 66	3,998 42
8	Kochedega ...	3,536 52	5,404 53	8,941 05	3,536 52	5,404 53	8,941 05
9	Bishunpur ...	707 85	1,100 96	1,808 81	742 11	1,102 12	1,844 23
10	Bano ...	57 40	381 46	438 86	1,326 72	1,413 46	2,740 17
11	Kolebira ...	1,111 37	2,267 38	3,378 75	2,181 49	3,074 10	5,255 59
12	Basia ...	292 48	601 48	892 96	4,036 56	4,443 94	8,480 40
	Subdivisional total	11,370 69	18,908 27	30,279 66	24,927 27	33,216 15	58,143 02
	SADAR DIVISION.						
1	Kuru ...	40 57	32 31	72 88	866 55	423 00	1,289 55
2	Bero ...	145 95	24 64	170 59	1,594 95	836 11	2,431 77
3	Burma ...	42 43	84 63	127 06	496 67	503 44	1,000 11
4	Lapung ...	16 44	37 58	54 02	1,387 83	1,836 17	2,924 00
5	Silli ...	513 45	280 59	794 04	513 45	280 59	794 04
6	Ormanjhi ...	.....	.....	.....	445 46	63 87	509 34
7	Angara ...	116 65	87 25	203 90	398 00	159 07	557 07
8	Mandar ...	59 93	43 67	103 60	2,155 29	918 14	3,074 43
9	Ranchi ...	250 49	162 10	412 59	2,069 81	1,184 90	4,254 71
10	Lohardaga ...	67 19	41 82	109 01	3,079 53	1,846 73	4,926 26
	Subdivisional total	1,253 10	794 59	2,047 69	13,708 11	8,053 73	21,761 27
	KHUNTI SUBDIVISION.						
1	Sonahatu ...	603 34	331 45	934 79	603 34	331 45	934 79
2	Tamar ...	1,113 73	504 92	1,618 65	1,113 73	504 92	1,618 65
3	Bundu ...	930 69	492 56	1,423 25	930 69	492 56	1,423 25
4	Khunti ...	1,041 15	2,360 16	3,401 31	2,412 66	2,955 10	5,377 76
5	Karra ...	348 36	758 91	1,107 27	2,482 61	1,424 39	3,907 00
6	Tarpa ...	309 61	504 28	813 89	3,205 67	2,148 81	5,354 48
	Subdivisional total	4,345 88	4,952 28	9,299 16	10,748 70	7,867 23	18,615 93
	DISTRICT TOTAL...	16,970 67	24,655 74	41,626 41	49,895 11	49,186 11	99,081 22

V.

privileged lands.

PERCENTAGE								
Of demarcated Manjhihas to cultivated area in villages in which Manjhihas enquiries were made.			Of recorded privileged lands to cultivated area in villages in which enquiries were made.			Of privileged lands of both classes to total cultivated area of thanas.		
Don.	Tanr.	Total.	Don.	Tanr.	Total.	Don.	Tanr.	Total.
21			22			23		
5.92	3.26	4.09	2.13	2.54	2.41	5.80	3.25	4.03
9.97	3.38	5.29	9.18	4.94	6.20	9.18	3.98	5.64
8.06	5.65	6.08	4.10	4.39	4.30	7.46	5.30	6.07
7.71	3.84	5.14	8.06	4.69	5.64	7.91	4.10	5.29
...	...	...	8.53	3.09	4.95	8.51	3.08	4.94
8.45	4.77	5.86	4.61	2.72	3.15	7.31	4.02	4.93
...	...	...	8.80	4.92	6.03	8.80	4.92	6.03
...	...	...	8.93	5.07	6.12	8.93	5.07	6.12
0.51	0.07	0.21	12.94	5.87	7.47	8.44	3.47	4.55
7.72	2.86	3.82	7.71	19.03	19.36	8.63	3.09	4.44
7.91	2.44	4.04	10.23	6.48	7.38	9.02	4.53	5.70
11.69	5.03	7.00	14.10	10.55	11.49	11.80	5.42	7.30
8.30	3.78	5.14	8.71	4.91	5.89	8.48	4.34	5.61
4.01	1.97	3.02	25.11	8.14	12.96	4.17	2.99	3.15
5.68	2.10	3.52	45.06	3.17	15.26	6.33	2.12	3.13
4.78	1.61	2.45	5.60	3.24	3.77	4.85	1.76	2.58
8.03	5.78	6.46	1.38	.93	.72	7.50	5.23	5.90
...	...	...	11.61	4.71	7.65	2.83	1.51	2.16
4.16	0.84	.74	...	...	...	4.11	0.84	1.74
2.65	.27	.95	7.65	1.99	3.12	3.12	0.51	1.28
5.41	1.98	3.59	6.93	5.64	6.21	5.44	2.05	3.64
4.25	1.09	2.40	2.83	1.27	1.90	4.08	1.11	2.34
5.22	2.41	3.62	.95	.51	.72	4.73	2.22	3.32
4.28	1.87	3.01	4.85	1.98	3.16	4.68	1.89	3.34
...	...	...	2.86	1.63	2.26	2.15	1.33	1.75
...	...	...	3.08	1.77	2.51	2.30	0.74	1.39
...	...	...	9.39	4.22	6.09	6.36	2.59	4.24
4.46	0.91	2.07	8.17	7.84	7.94	5.54	2.11	3.91
14.11	1.61	5.17	5.14	3.90	4.29	11.38	2.31	4.63
12.28	2.53	5.12	5.20	2.58	3.20	10.92	2.42	4.71
9.22	1.78	3.88	4.72	3.52	4.19	5.75	2.23	3.45
6.49	2.62	3.90	6.88	4.26	5.12	6.21	2.12	4.25

APPENDIX

Gosware or Abstract

Serial No.	NAME OF THANA.	MANJHINAS OR BETKHETA.					LANDLORDS' PRIVILEGED LANDS.				
		Khatiana.	Cultivated.		Uncultivated.	Total.	Khatiana.	Cultivated.		Uncultivated.	Total.
			Don.	Tanr.				Don.	Tanr.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8*	9	10	11	12*
			Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.		Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
1	Gumla ...	326	1,960-03	2,454-96	...	4,414-98	...	...	...	...	...
2	Ghaghra ...	247	1,436-55	1,414-43	...	2,850-97	...	...	...	...	...
3	Palkot ...	133	1,035-47	777-77	...	1,812-24	...	...	...	...	...
4	Kurdeg ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	Kolebira ...	97	1,070-12	806-72	27	1,877-11	...	...	...	...	...
6	Dasia ...	539	2,744-08	2,843-36	87	7,688-31	...	...	...	...	...
7	Kochedega ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8	Sisai ...	375	2,178-26	2,698-66	...	4,876-92	6	24-87	74-39	...	99-26
9	Chainpur ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10	Baidih ...	120	989-09	1,278-25	...	2,267-34	...	...	...	...	...
11	Bishunpur ...	4	34-26	1-16	...	35-42	...	...	...	...	...
12	Bano ...	206	1,169-32	1,031-99	...	2,201-31	...	...	...	...	...
	Subdivisional total ...	2,049	13,567-18	14,807-28	1-14	27,875-60	6	24-87	74-39	...	99-26
1	Sonabatu ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2	Tamar ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3	Bandu ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4	Khunti ...	166	1,371-51	604-94	2-73	1,979-18	...	...	...	...	...
5	Karra ...	399	2,194-25	665-48	0-19	2,799-92	...	...	...	...	...
6	Torpa ...	438	2,696-06	1,844-53	9-8	4,549-67	...	...	...	...	...
	Subdivisional total ...	993	6,401-82	2,914-96	12-00	9,328-77	...	...	...	...	...
1	Kuru ...	136	825-98	890-69	...	1,216-67	4	40-67	33-31	...	72-88
2	Bero ...	487	1,449-10	812-18	...	2,261-18	9	145-36	24-64	...	170-69
3	Burmu ...	171	454-24	418-81	...	873-05	6	42-43	84-63	...	127-05
4	Lapung ...	319	1,071-39	1,795-59	...	2,866-98	1	16-44	37-58	...	54-02
5	Silli ...	...	...	...	...	...	50	513-45	380-59	...	794-04
6	Ormanjhi ...	109	445-46	63-87	...	509-33	...	...	...	...	...
7	Angara ...	78	281-35	71-82	...	353-17	13	116-66	87-26	...	203-90
8	Mandar ...	410	2,095-36	874-47	...	2,970-83	12	59-23	43-67	...	103-60
9	Banchi ...	502	2,819-32	1,022-80	...	2,842-12	38	260-49	163-10	...	413-59
10	Lohardaga ...	506	3,012-24	1,804-91	...	4,817-25	36	67-19	41-32	...	109-01
	Subdivisional total ...	2,718	12,455-44	7,258-14	...	19,713-58	169	1,353-10	794-59	...	2,047-69
	DISTRICT TOTAL ...	5,780	32,424-44	24,480-37	13-14	56,917-96	175	1,277-97	868-96	...	2,146-96

* Columns 8-12.—At the time, when these statistics were prepared, the record of landlords' privileged lands had not been made in the Khunti and Gumla subdivisions (except Sisai). For the areas recorded as privileged in these subdivisions. (See Appendix V.)

VI.

of Tenancies.

BAKAST MALIK.					BAKAST BHUINHARI, PAHANAI, MAHATOAI, DALIKATARI AND BHUTKHSTA.				
Khatians.	Cultivated.		Unculti- vated.	Total.	Khatians.	Cultivated.		Unculti- vated.	Total.
	Don.	Tanr.				Don.	Tanr.		
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.			Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
465	2,152·94	6,521·87	...	8,674·81	989	2,906·27	2,596·41	250·01	5,751·69
328	2,291·86	5,963·78	...	8,255·14	915	2,823·08	2,173·59	244·63	5,241·15
216	1,732·71	4,386·94	...	6,069·65	231	588·80	625·57	41·63	1,255·90
128	2,301·53	4,078·31	...	6,379·84	...	...	...	...	...
311	3,116·18	7,566·98	1·26	10,684·42	339	640·24	755·58	34·87	1,430·69
639	3,884·98	10,770·34	1·12	14,656·44	2,423	4,242·28	5,558·77	425·60	10,226·55
384	4,751·09	9,317·44	...	14,068·53	1	3·58	4·70	...	8·28
608	2,604·48	6,913·54	...	9,518·02	2,346	5,741·66	6,116·48	671·03	12,528·17
378	3,245·94	6,504·78	...	9,750·72	...	...	...	...	...
176	1,275·61	3,077·25	...	4,352·86	122	312·79	161·78	14·10	488·67
9	1,036·24	2,221·54	...	3,307·78	27	70·58	56·14	18·82	140·54
386	1,787·19	5,933·79	5·60	7,725·58	801	1,497·92	2,005·01	135·35	3,638·28
4,104	30,230·25	73,206·56	7·98	103,444·79	8,193	18,827·20	20,052·83	1,830·99	40,711·02
433	2,257·31	1,394·06	4·39	3,655·76	...	...	...	...	...
836	4,968·27	2,585·51	30·58	7,584·36	...	...	...	...	...
361	1,842·05	1,374·24	1·83	32,18·12	...	...	...	...	...
389	2,463·41	6,620·89	52·32	9,136·62	1,303	2,971·32	2,938·23	146·75	6,056·30
472	1,644·60	7,308·78	20·55	8,973·93	1,979	4,381·07	6,084·53	40·70	10,506·30
678	2,350·23	7,756·99	35·82	10,043·04	3,107	5,784·76	8,367·73	564·82	14,717·31
3,169	15,425·87	27,040·47	145·49	42,611·83	6,389	13,137·15	17,390·49	752·27	31,279·91
285	1,862·27	1,827·05	...	3,689·32	1,217	2,099·30	1,110·81	172·40	3,382·51
544	1,643·04	3,440·04	...	5,083·80	1,971	3,122·43	2,512·73	689·55	6,324·71
215	922·58	2,131·43	...	3,054·01	540	1,099·60	2,618·84	415·23	4,133·67
243	1,145·77	3,165·16	...	4,310·93	1,447	2,540·66	4,246·46	319·16	7,106·28
177	1,961·99	1,032·24	...	2,994·23	1	3·62	3·21	49	7·32
213	545·22	1,844·93	...	2,390·15	480	1,241·68	1,499·53	225·24	2,967·45
148	654·20	1,474·59	...	2,128·78	323	691·69	709·57	135·50	1,436·76
630	2,405·34	3,887·12	...	6,292·46	3,512	5,308·59	3,738·04	611·34	9,657·97
1,114	4,013·50	7,415·77	...	11,429·27	4,669	9,676·87	8,851·39	2,001·29	20,029·55
937	4,857·35	7,995·58	...	12,852·93	3,257	7,036·33	3,185·41	599·12	10,820·86
4,506	20,011·26	34,213·90	...	54,225·16	17,417	32,720·77	27,966·99	5,169·32	65,857·08
11,779	65,667·38	134,460·93	153·47	200,281·78	31,999	64,685·12	65,410·31	7,752·68	137,848·01

Serial No.	NAME OF THANA.	BAKAST MUNDARI KHUNTATHI.					BAKAST KHUNTATHI.				
		Khata-ans.	Cultivated.		Uncultivated.	Total.	Khata-ans.	Cultivated.		Uncultivated.	Total.
			Don.	Tanr.				Don.	Tanr.		
		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
1	Gumla ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2	Ghaghra ...	5	30'03	82'19	3'49	115'71	7	48'36	73'97	8'65	130'98
3	Palkot ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4	Kurdeg ...	1	14'06	6'54	20	20'80	10	56'50	84'84	...	141'44
5	Kolebira ...	24	118'97	446'01	40'94	605'92	1	1'29	16'05	...	17'34
6	Basia ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7	Kochedega ...	50	319'10	998'32	41'27	1,358'69	...	...	...	...	...
8	Sisai ...	3	8'07	20'53	2'38	30'98	...	...	...	...	...
9	Chainpur ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	12'38	21'00	...	33'38
10	Raidih ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
11	Bishunpur ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
12	Bano ...	31	82'57	309'51	1'33	393'41	...	...	...	...	...
	Subdivisional total ...	114	572'80	1,863'10	89'61	2,525'51	19	118'53	195'96	8'66	323'15
1	Sonahatu ...	280	2,439'05	1,926'60	381'95	4,747'00	...	...	...	...	...
2	Tamar ...	3,653	13,266'74	31,854'57	2,119'54	47,270'95	52	250'95	433'41	17'76	702'12
3	Bundu ...	637	2,857'27	3,548'49	280'43	6,686'19	4	46'50	45'17	1'39	93'56
4	Khunti ...	3,394	14,846'13	24,993'67	2,503'13	42,341'93	250	1,275'61	2,161'65	222'42	3,659'68
5	Karra ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6	Torpa ...	41	88'94	410'78	29'26	528'98	2	14'61	23'08	2'32	39'99
	Subdivisional total ...	8,085	33,497'13	62,764'11	6,313'81	101,575'05	308	1,597'67	2,663'29	244'89	4,495'95
1	Kuru ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2	Bero ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3	Burmu ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4	Lapung ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	Silli ...	24	234'60	142'47	1'46	378'53	6	60'37	56'94	2'89	120'20
6	Ormanjhi ...	5	5'17	4'99	4'38	14'54	3	44'95	53'38	4'94	103'27
7	Angara ...	...	...	...	...	...	4	17'57	23'91	...	41'48
8	Mandar ...	7	14'32	17'79	3'22	35'33	...	...	...	...	...
9	Ranchi ...	27	79'89	222'26	7'23	309'38	...	...	...	...	...
10	Lohardaga ...	9	20'31	20	13	20'64	14	57'36	84'27	1'04	142'67
	Subdivisional total ...	72	354'29	387'71	16'42	758'42	27	180'25	218'60	8'87	407'62
	GRAND TOTAL	8,221	34,424'22	65,014'92	5,419'84	104,858'98	354	1,888'45	3,077'75	261'92	5,226'12

MUNDARI KHUNTAKATTI.

Khasi-	Cultivated.		Uncultivated.	Total.	Jinsi.	Rent.	Average rent per acre on don area.	Average rent per acre on total area.
	Don.	Tanr.						
33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41
						Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
118	614-88	2,366-23	188-44	3,169-55		183 0 9	0 4 9	0 0 11
13	68-74	273-3	6-10	347-87		34 4 0	0 8 0	0 1 7
131	688-62	2,639-26	194-54	3,517-42		217 4 9	0 5 1	0 1 0
391	1,467-85	1,599-30	474-60	3,531-75	D. 3-84 T. 91-64 G. 0-05 9493	1,072 12 2	0 11 9	0 4 10
493	1,243-91	1,984-80	333-92	4,062-69	D. 10-68 T. 5-46 G. 0-44 16-69	2,003 7 8	1 1 4	0 7 10
232	823-88	1,395-11	173-73	2,292-67	D. 3-70 T. 4-88 G. 0-03 8-59	1,213 0 0	1 7 6	0 3 6
392	2,855-41	6,223-00	406-69	8,485-10		3,762 11 9	1 5 1	0 7 1
9	5-92	123-78	2-18	130-88		3 1 0	0 8 3	0 0 6
1,717	6,986-92	10,224-99	1,291-12	18,508-03	D. 17-01 T. 101-96 G. 0-58 120-11	8,055 9 7	1 3 5	0 6 11
67	247-48	160-12	27-79	436-39		304 5 9	1 3 8	0 11 2
6	19-81	11-42	1-11	32-34				
16	37-36	128-65	51	166-62		40 14 6	1 1 6	0 3 11
77	304-65	300-19	29-51	634-36		345 4 3	1 2 2	0 8 8
1,925	7,976-19	13,164-44	1,516-17	22,654-80	120-11	8,618 2 7	1 1 0	0 6 0

KHUNTKATTI.

Serial No.	NAME OF THANA.	KHUNTKATTI.								
		Khatians.	CULTIVATED.		Uncultivated.	Total.	Jinal.	Rent.	Average rent per acre on don area.	Average rent per acre on total area.
			Don.	Tanr.						
		42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
								Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
1	Gumla ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2	Ghaghra ...	10	7 90	1 16	12	9 18	...	...	...	...
3	Palkot ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4	Kurdeg ...	4	26 86	75 94	3 27	106 6	...	8 13 9	0 5 8	0 1 4
5	Kolebira ...	14	14 5	143 57	3 97	161 59	...	2 3 6	0 3 6	0 0 3
6	Basia ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7	Kochedega ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8	Sisai ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9	Chainpur ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10	Raidih ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
11	Bishunpur ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
12	Bano ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Subdivisional total ...	28	48 80	220 67	7 38	276 83	...	11 1 3	0 3 8	0 0 8
1	Sonahatu ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2	Tamar ...	9	72 53	26 69	1 96	101 18	...	35 12 0	0 8 0	0 5 9
3	Bundu ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4	Khunti ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	Karra ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6	Torpa ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Subdivisional total ...	9	72 53	26 69	1 96	101 18	...	35 12 0	0 8 0	0 5 7
1	Kuru ...	6	1 69	42 76	1 10	45 55	...	10 4 4	5 14 8	0 3 7
2	Bero ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3	Burmu ...	3	4 51	11 18	48	16 17	...	...	...	...
4	Lapung ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	Silli ...	25	100 70	148 03	25 39	274 12	...	125 10 0	1 4 0	0 7 4
6	Ormanjhi ...	44	96 50	208 72	10 79	311 01	...	319 8 0	3 9 8	1 2 0
7	Angara ...	74	193 12	720 36	9 99	923 47	...	327 9 3	1 11 2	0 5 8
8	Mandar ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9	Ranchi ...	84	170 94	432 83	22 11	625 88	D. 30 48 T. 17 88 47 07	229 12 9	1 5 5	0 5 10
10	Lohardaga ...	311	646 13	918 75	40 74	1,605 62	D. 30 79	501 3 0	0 12 5	4 11
	Subdivisional total ...	547	1,213 59	2,477 63	110 60	3,801 82	D. 50 28 T. 17 88 67 88	1,543 15 4	1 4 4	0 6 6
	DISTRICT TOTAL	684	1,834 93	2,724 99	116 92	4,179 83	57 85	1,590 12 7	1 3 0	0 6 0

TENANCIES HELD AT FIXED RENTS.								SETTLED RAIYATS.		
Khatians.	CULTIVATED.		Uncultivated.	Total.	Rent.	Average rent per acre on don area.	Average rent per acre on total area.	Khatians.	CULTIVATED.	
	Don.	Tanr.							Don.	Tanr.
51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61
					Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
47	114-25	189-09	4-49	307-83	61 0 0	0 7 2	0 2 8	...	...	...
■	85-39	120-84	18-89	235-40	36 13 0	0 6 11	0 2 7	...	...	...
5	19-17	13-44	82	39-93	25 3 0	1 5 2	0 12 6	...	...	...
2	12-38	15-97	5-99	34-34	1 15 0	0 2 6	0 0 11	...	...	...
15	63-39	125-61	54-68	243-68	25 7 3	0 6 5	0 1 8	...	...	...
27	76-45	127-39	88-61	242-36	47 18 3	0 10 0	0 3 2	...	...	...
11	47-63	108-37	16-07	172-06	28 4 0	0 9 5	0 2 8	...	...	...
■	114-52	179-86	51-03	344-91	57 10 3	0 8 1	■ 2 8	8,617	21,248-40	57,037-86
14	48-31	110-62	33-68	182-61	49 1 2	1 0 4	0 4 9	...	...	...
4	18-94	20-80	23	39-97	6 11 0	0 5 7	0 2 8	...	...	...
1	3-19	...	...	3-19	...	...	...	...	...	...
15	46-90	127-14	7-23	181-27	41 12 0	0 14 3	0 3 8	...	...	...
214	650-35	1,128-53	231-16	2,010-04	371 9 11	0 9 2	0 2 11	8,617	21,248-40	57,037-86
67	277-66	68-94	50-80	397-39	131 4 4	0 7 7	0 5 3	130	180-43	460-86
167	472-93	309-09	155-58	937-60	339 1 6	0 13 2	0 6 8	...	...	...
53	173-47	79-94	31-76	285-17	130 10 2	0 12 1	0 7 4	...	...	...
117	299-76	267-21	61-87	728-84	218 10 4	0 11 8	0 4 9	25	97-09	156-21
■	142-99	157-04	67-23	367-25	79 2 6	■ 8 10	0 3 5	14	245-43	1,128-09
■	54-15	58-06	44-14	156-35	33 3 9	0 9 10	0 3 6	...	...	...
468	1,420-95	1,040-28	411-37	2,872-60	982 0 7	0 11 1	0 5 6	296	502-95	1,734-16
16	38-94	13-42	6-34	48-70	25 15 3	0 14 4	0 8 6	4,017	10,407-13	18,962-26
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,843	13,099-11	24,079-53
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,237	6,663-67	21,229-10
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,770	8,256-63	23,097-39
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,087	14,090-33	15,731-68
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,409	8,007-99	14,026-26
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,106	10,243-26	26,029-82
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11,634	25,712-67	28,157-66
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26,200	52,206-05	83,563-90
108	218-18	331-29	7-85	557-32	172 13 9	0 12 8	0 4 11	32,651	34,497-07	50,591-20
124	247-12	344-71	14-19	606-02	198 13 ■	0 12 10	0 5 3	104,954	183,183-91	299,488-32
806	2,318-42	2,512-52	656-72	5,488-66	1,552 7 6	0 10 8	0 4 6	113,806	204,935-26	358,260-84

* At the time when these statistics were prepared for the Khunt and Gumla subdivisions (except in those final and a few villages of other thanas), the law of the "settled raiyats" was not in force in Chota Nagpur, see paragraph 169.

Serial No.	NAME OF THANA.	SETTLED RAIYATS.*					
		Uncultivated.	Total.	Jinai.	Rent.	Average rent per acre on don area.	Average rent per acre on total area.
		62	63	64	65	66	67
					Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
1	Gumla ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2	Ghaghra ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3	Palkot ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4	Kurdeg ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	Kolebira ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6	Basia ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7	Kochedega ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8	Sisai ...	2,948-96	81,235-22	D. 454-50 T. 419-74 874-24	37,287 4 5½	1 12 1	0 7
9	Chainpur ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10	Raidih ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
11	Bishuapur ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
12	Bano ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Subdivisional total ...	2,948-96	81,235-22	D. 454-50 T. 419-74 874-24	37,287 4 5½	1 12 1	0 7 4
1	Sonahatu ...	13-08	634-37	...	360 5 3½	1 14 0	0 7 8
2	Tamar ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3	Bundu ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4	Khunti ...	6-12	268-42	...	66 13 6	0 9 2	0 3 5
5	Karra ...	45-57	1,419-09	...	685 9 7½	2 12 8	0 7 9
6	Torpa ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Subdivisional total ...	64-77	2,301-88	...	1,041 12 5	2 1 2	0 7 3
1	Kuru ...	8,320-26	32,709-67	D. 329-28 T. 1-46-61 434-89	19,199 5 8½	1 13 6	0 9 5
2	Bero ...	1,031-73	38,210-37	D. 1,714-07 T. 1,291-01 5,407-08	31,486 9 2	2 6 5	0 13 2
3	Burmu ...	1,017-61	28,910-28	M. 243-76 T. 206-16 639-91	16,095 5 2½	2 6 6	0 8 10
4	Lapung ...	1,537-20	32,891-22	D. 1,393-38 T. 80-79 1,646-95	13,986 3 5	1 11 1	0 6 9
5	Silli ...	3,021-01	32,843-02	D. 61-5 T. 119-76 180-89	19,147 1 8½	1 6 8	0 9 3
6	Ormanjhi ...	777-59	22,811-84	D. 134-15 T. 158-99 293-14	14,070 15 ½	1 12 1	0 9 11
7	Angara ...	2,017-94	38,291-02	D. 87-40 T. 234-06 G. 33 341-79	16,374 15 6½	1 9 6	0 6 10
8	Maudar ...	1,584-95	65,455-28	D. 530-03 T. 515-46 1,076-49	33,448 5 2	1 4 9	0 9 7
9	Ranchi ...	6,040-12	140,810-07	D. 1,686-73 T. 1,766-55 3,453-28	73,561 3 2	1 6 6	0 8 4
10	Lohardaga ...	2,198-21	87,285-48	D. 1,017-73 T. 1,806-30 2,824-03	65,747 5 6	1 14 11	0 12 0
	Subdivisional total ...	27,546-52	510,219-25	D. 7,129-55 T. 6,685-45 13,784-35	3,09,057 5 7½	1 10 11	0 9 6

OCCUPANCY RAIYATS.

Khatians.	Cultivated.		Uncultivated.	Total.	Jinst.	Rent.	Average rent per acre on don area.	Average rent per acre on total area.
	Don.	Tanr.						
68	■	70	71	■	73	74	■	■
6,690	19,894-89	40,416-18	3,048-25	63,354-32	D. 159-02 T. 424-58 G. 5-98 583-30	Rs. A. P. 38,125 2 10	Rs. A. P. 1 15 0	Rs. A. P. 0 9 8
6,758	14,573-84	38,945-96	1,410-40	52,930-20	D. 142-78 T. 431-94 G. 1-89 574-69	27,973 14 7½	1 14 9	■ 8 5
3,981	11,592-35	27,810-38	2,145-89	41,548-62	D. 49-31 T. 28-15 G. 1-37 78-83	15,533 9 10½	1 5 5	0 6 0
3,401	12,854-35	32,766-42	3,116-37	48,737-14	...	10,273 0 5½	0 12 9	■ 3 4
4,331	15,920-43	46,262-23	3,728-36	65,911-2	D. 68-61 T. 74-31 G. 4-21 146-53	10,696 6 5	0 10 11	0 2 8
7,162	19,141-96	55,717-77	3,727-63	73,587-36	D. 69-2 T. 77-20 G. 2-10 148-33	22,313 9 10	1 2 8	0 4 7
6,568	28,977-50	82,032-12	5,489-54	116,499-16	D. 3-86 T. 9-91 G. 13-76	29,626 14 1	1 0 4	0 4 1
1,781	3,465-84	7,878-56	408-5	11,742-45	D. 187-73 T. 127-5 G. 314-78	5,754 0 ½	1 10 7	0 7 10
7,458	21,240-63	87,508-49	1,388-8	110,137-20	D. 184-71 T. 790-30 G. 1-57 977-8	30,563 15 2	1 7 0	0 4 5
3,293	11,828-61	35,204-27	1,819-47	48,852-35	D. 11-45 T. 12-74 G. 1-12 41-31	14,752 ■ 8	1 4 1	0 4 10
2,567	6,239-1	24,460	460-5	31,159-6	D. 17-1 T. 63-59 G. 7-78 81-39	12,048 5 4½	1 14 11	■ 6 2
3,776	8,862-85	32,201-47	2,492-27	43,556-59	D. 9-96 T. 4-31 G. 9 14-88	6,163 1 5	0 11 2	0 2 3
55,786	174,582-25	509,203-85	29,229-36	718,015-47	D. 613-11 T. 2,045-35 G. 13-39 2,230-37	2,24,024 0 9½	1 4 6	0 5 0
7,550	18,484-04	14,047-58	2,372-77	34,904-39	D. 220-53 T. 2,560-67 G. 13-18 2,800-21	26,341 2 7	1 6 10	0 12 1
9,019	20,501-41	19,849-44	2,089-35	42,390-10	D. 240-89 T. 696-36 G. 12-31 857-93	26,604 11 11	1 4 9	0 10 1
3,391	6,927-40	10,025-60	875-56	17,828-56	D. 109-38 T. 444-01 G. 4-76 547-15	7,299 2 8	1 0 10	0 6 7
7,025	16,331-19	49,398-82	3,284-64	69,014-65	D. 18-73 T. 75-38 G. 00-85 36-55	16,694 5 10	1 0 4	0 3 10
6,054	11,368-11	40,696-07	3,093-04	55,155-22	D. 67-17 T. 174-88 G. 5-28 247-33	1,839 13 5	0 2 7	0 0 6
8,200	17,012-28	62,179-58	5,208 00	84,399-86	D. 36-97 T. 41-64 G. 1-39 60-50	15,731 0 8	0 14 10	0 3 0
41,139	90,622-43	196,197-09	16,873-26	303,692-78	D. 784-81 T. 3,886-44 G. 33-75 4,723-40	94,510 5 1	1 0 8	0 5 0
1,388	4,082-56	2,125-6	109-84	6,267 46	D. 87-16 T. 13-43 G. 100-59	4,640 13 2	1 2 4	0 11 10
1,292	2,709-27	5,405-80	262-20	8,376-77	D. 116-75 T. 40-34 G. 157-89	4,568 0 7	1 11 0	0 3 9
77	64-31	102-77	67-26	234-34	D. 1-08 T. 1-08 G. 1-08	215 14 5	3 5 9	0 14 9
174	380-26	1,199-87	87-12	1,667-25	D. 30 T. 30 G. 30	774 12 9	2 0 8	0 7 5
■	190-05	349-15	20-18	559-38	T. 1-36 D. 6-33 T. 2-34 8-77	321 6 7½	1 11 1	0 9 2
■	138-57	190-73	49-47	363-77	...	56 14 10	0 7 4	0 2 6
288	258-63	153-35	12-08	424-06	...	448 0 1½	1 11 9	1 0 11
639	1,175-92	2,094-14	70-66	3,340-72	D. 18-26 T. 8-36 G. 26-62	1,746 13 8	1 7 9	0 3 4
314	292-23	110-59	93-09	495-91	D. 75-19 T. 1-37 G. 77-06	296 1 6	1 0 2	0 9 9
3,366	9,019-61	11,331-31	547-73	20,798-65	D. 305-03 T. 198-33 G. 503-36	15,570 6 0	1 11 7	0 11 11
7,692	18,246-41	22,962-27	1,319-63	42,528-31	D. 610-29 T. 267-83 G. 677-81	28,639 3 8	1 9 1	0 10 9

Serial No.	Name of Thana.	NON OCCUPANCY RAIYATE.								
		Khatians.	Cultivated.		Uncultivated.	Total.	Jinal.	Rent.	Average rent per acre on den area.	Average rent per acre on total area.
			Don.	Taur.						
		77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85
1	Gumla ...	2,185	2,080-24	3,418-97	166-68	5,665-87	D. 428 33 T. 961 18 G. 9 68 1,394 9	Rs. A. P. 5,337 15 4	Rs. A. P. 2 9 1	Rs. A. P. 0 15 1
2	Ghaghra ...	1,712	1,495-44	4,377-91	118-95	5,992-30	D. 280 74 T. 923 74 G. 10 39 1,214 87	4,411 8 10	2 15 2	0 11 9
3	Palkot ...	1,017	1,572-11	3,208-79	233 13	5,014-3	D. 122 97 T. 94 65 G. 1 25 218 87	2,480 5 11	1 9 2	0 7 10
4	Kurdeg ...	2,177	2,880-5	10,894-81	918 4	14,692-90	D. 473 T. 3 34 G. 8 6	3,025 11 6	1 0 9	0 3 4
5	Kolebira ...	1,758	1,998-63	3,258-49	396-86	10,654-3	D. 116 87 T. 95 81 G. 11 89 223 57	2,265 16 0	1 10 2	0 4 11
6	Basia ...	1,785	2,039-35	5,196-82	295 44	7,531-61	D. 30 35 T. 31 55 G. 2 62 10	4,542 10 9	2 4 5	0 9 10
7	Kochodega ...	2,826	4,107-3	12,337-78	530-87	16,975-63	D. 114 45 T. 134 75 G. 240 30	4,841 13 3	1 2 10	0 4 7
8	Sisai ...	1,164	923 45	3,194-93	120-62	4,239	D. 3 7 93 T. 7 5 13 G. 3 63 1,039 78	2,041 3 4	2 3 4	0 7 8
9	Chainpur ...	2,176	1,873-79	8,351-69	199-94	10,425-42	D. 64 90 T. 67 18 G. 81 1 2 89	3,805 9 3	2 0 6	0 5 10
10	Basidih ...	674	966-50	2,367-44	170-68	3,504-62	D. 15 91 T. 176 85 G. 54 196 40	1,984 12 8	2 0 10	0 9 1
11	Bishunpur ...	903	825-77	4,475-31	108-50	5,409-58	D. 8 57 T. 8 21 G. 6 17 64	2,650 7 9	3 3 4	0 7 10
12	Bano ...	1,007	601-8	3,625-85	114-52	4,341-40	D. 1 463 48 T. 3,311 44 G. 38 44 4,773 41	737 3 3	1 3 8	0 2 9
	Subdivisional total ...	19,384	21,863-44	69,708-79	3,374-21	94,446-44	D. 558 20 T. 701 37 G. 7 79 1,094 50	38,224 10 0	1 12 8	0 6 6
1	Sonahata ...	2,163	1,938-57	1,093-71	249-18	3,351-46	D. 681 25 T. 800 43 G. 23 65 1,504 38	3,119 10 0	1 9 9	0 15 2
2	Tamar ...	5,284	4,918-53	7,866-17	909-32	13,694-02	D. 621 36 T. 466 08 G. 10 21 1,107 10	9,656 5 2	1 15 5	0 11 5
3	Bundu ...	1,457	780-41	1,190-37	251-43	2,222-21	D. 75 48 T. 87 15 G. 0 15 163 76	1,328 14 2	1 11 5	0 9 7
4	Khunti ...	1,145	881-40	2,286-74	118-26	3,286-40	D. 336 42 T. 306 11 G. 5 81 643 40	2,242 8 1	2 8 9	0 10 11
5	Karra ...	1,638	1,384-05	4,848-99	299-64	6,532-58	D. 8 32 T. 64 76 G. 3 59 106 17	3,550 10 10	2 9 1	0 8 8
6	Torpa ...	1,297	900-40	3,663-43	805-70	5,369-53	D. 1,092 63 T. 2,365 06 G. 21 24 4,635 43	1,291 13 1	...	...
	Subdivisional total ...	13,022	10,803-36	20,949-41	2,633-43	34,386-20	D. 111 23 T. 110 61 G. 187 89 221 12	21,139 13 4	1 15 4	0 9 10
	Kuru ...	435	447-88	185-37	47-30	680-55	D. 221 12 T. 109 32 G. 3 00 330 44	823 6 9	1 13 5	1 3 4
2	Boro ...	877	740-43	1,003-79	676-91	2,421-13	D. 49 48 T. 67 34 G. 166 68 281 56	1,572 7 6	2 2 0	0 10 4
3	Burmu ...	554	456-01	1,515-14	53-52	2,024-67	D. 281 56 T. 79 19 G. 36 24 362 79	305 2 9	0 10 8	0 2 6
4	Lapung ...	376	332-72	967-93	41-43	1,342-08	D. 19 72 T. 16 54 G. 36 24 55 50	668 15 11	2 0 2	0 7 11
5	Silli ...	135	62-75	209-70	70-25	342-70	D. 18 17 T. 3 84 G. 24 06 193 15	169 0 3	2 11 1	0 7 10
6	Ormanjhi ...	193	99-68	283-69	15-99	392-76	D. 183 23 T. 346 66 G. 293 12 579 61	321 8 3	3 6 11	0 13 1
7	Angara ...	499	169-70	1,028-34	184-84	1,332-88	D. 363 46 T. 747 38 G. 1,876 5 1,817 59 4,693 91	566 15 3	3 5 4	0 6 9
8	Mandar ...	1,046	846-10	955-89	228-78	2,030-77	D. 183 15 T. 153 23 G. 346 66 293 12	2,480 9 2	2 13 11	1 3 1
9	Ranchi ...	1,792	1,388-70	2,844-55	269-41	4,502-79	D. 363 46 T. 747 38 G. 1,876 5 1,817 59 4,693 91	2,806 8 11	2 0 4	0 9 11
	Lohardaga ...	2,171	2,402-50	3,793-47	120-18	6,316-55	D. 1,876 5 T. 1,817 59 G. 4,693 91	6,137 0 3	2 2 2	0 13 0
	Subdivisional total ...	7,979	6,940-97	12,747-90	1,618-01	21,346-88		14,801 11 1	2 2 1	0 11 0

RENT-FREE.					HOMESTADS.							
Khatians.	Cultivated.		Uncultivated.	Total.	Occupancy.			Total.	Non-occupancy.			Total.
	Don.	Tanr.			Khatians.	Tanr.	Uncultivated.		Khatians.	Tanr.	Uncultivated.	
86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98
734	871-53	447-81	17-59	1,336-93	419	33-08	19-75	52-83	122	18-17	11-82	29-99
485	570-67	309-90	23-19	903-76	174	14-40	7-58	21-98	50	3-30	1-40	4-70
483	612-62	244-43	23-94	855-99	387	33-05	16-06	49-11	69	4-72	2-33	7-05
216	397-90	271-12	17-90	668-92	119	15-30	3-57	19-37	195	20-93	6-37	27-30
376	638-79	829-30	40-44	1,517-53	283	35-38	11-51	46-89	184	19-92	6-19	26-11
713	876-51	617-91	29-76	1,524-8	376	34-13	14-07	48-20	138	13-95	4-86	18-81
674	1,314-48	1,645-56	92-60	2,952-64	603	53-08	20-02	73-10	341	33-11	10-85	43-96
999	863-54	522-23	30-78	1,446-55	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
989	2,045-52	1,921-71	59	4,026-23	561	85-64	17-44	103-08	197	18-91	4-89	23-80
265	383-77	155-36	8-60	547-63	156	14-20	5-19	19-39	77	6-16	2-41	8-57
401	496-47	219-41	23-57	732-45	71	13-07	2-27	16-34	28	5-38	0-22	6-30
54	57-37	29-85	0-93	88-15	170	21-93	6-64	28-57	91	13-30	2-95	16-25
6,439	9,159-17	7,114-49	382-20	16,655-86	3,218	363-76	124-10	477-86	1,492	167-85	54-99	212-84
833	1,013-42	468-90	91-59	1,573-91	1,292	369-24	53-82	363-06	74	18-01	2-52	20-53
846	1,344-27	379-11	76-13	1,799-51	2,703	677-29	120-15	797-44	618	171-76	29-13	300-59
338	331-02	196-75	12-45	540-23	1,007	214-44	50-41	264-55	126	28-11	10-69	38-80
164	137-04	84-65	2-30	213-99	514	77-16	25-72	102-88	193	27-64	6-70	34-34
218	212-76	122-37	7-33	343-01	365	33-01	17-95	50-96	64	5-55	2-55	8-10
105	97-10	105-57	7-33	210-00	772	34-66	11-35	46-51	71	10-33	3-10	13-43
2,489	3,125-61	1,357-35	197-63	4,680-54	6,653	1,345-30	279-90	1,625-70	1,146	261-40	54-69	316-09
513	540-41	128-33	18-40	667-54	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1,034	853-71	645-28	132-37	1,631-46	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
283	195-59	153-49	12-10	361-18	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
297	227-33	263-21	41-21	621-75	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
663	566-92	331-31	33-86	932-09	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
106	53-28	48-41	1-33	103-02	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
135	103-83	98-00	6-62	213-45	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1,862	1,357-76	4,223-62	32-21	6,513-49	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1,450	2,298-91	826-77	115-16	3,240-84	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1,414	1,449-67	653-60	91-79	2,195-06	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7,547	7,652-41	7,362-11	485-05	15,499-98	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Serial No.	NAME OF THANA.	JUNGLE AND WASTE.		KAISAR-I-HIND.		TOTAL.		
		Khatians.	Area.	Khatians.	Area.	Khatians.	Cultivated.	
							Don.	Tann.
		99	100	101	102	103	104	105
1	Gumla ...	1,062	41,429.48	47	T. 27.75 G. 394.3 421.77	13,136	30,556.4	57,509.4
2	Ghaghra ...	784	53,741.41	26	178.28	10,536	23,756.6	52,895.90
3	Palkot ...	479	85,899.71	8	G. 59.37 T. 73 69.63	6,009	17,325.41	37,178.21
4	Kurdeg ...	238	126,832.98	23	T. 73 G. 140.88 141.61	6,509	18,548.34	48,334.85
5	Kolebira ...	752	156,834.90	27	G. 158.93	8,630	24,379.50	67,802.89
6	Basia ...	2,018	68,463.01	32	185.44	15,852	34,074.64	81,957.44
7	Kochedega ...	624	186,425.58	18	107.82	11,999	39,551.61	106,472.04
8	Sisai ...	1,539	52,378.71	38	G. 235.83	17,513	37,949.77	85,318.08
9	Chainpur ...	612	123,036.25	■	T. 57 G. 451.96 452.53	12,445	28,989.14	108,019.34
10	Raidih ...	342	68,596.91	10	D. 41.5 T. 6.56 G. 28.37 75.93	5,339	15,808.65	42,371.99
11	Bishunpur ...	162	110,274.90	27	T. 30 G. 134.40 134.70	4,281	8,791.46	31,692.75
12	Bano ...	1,231	73,229.24	2	T. 5.55 G. 5.80 11.24	7,785	14,193.24	45,591.44
	Subdivisional total ...	9,843	1,145,193.07	317	D. 41.5 T. 41.78 G. 3,050.50 2,163.82	119,934	293,908.86	763,048.77
1	Bonahatu ...	595	36,145.81	30	D. 0.13 G. 99.89 99.73	13,838	28,613.47	24,731.48
2	Tamar ...	1,400	186,533.08	47	T. 30 G. 135.61 135.81	25,157	48,478.35	67,722.51
3	Bundu ...	432	30,634.29	30	T. 0.14 G. 151.32 151.98	8,003	14,608.39	18,932.82
4	Khunti ...	1,270	70,599.52	61	461.75	16,558	42,610.02	95,105.48
5	Karra ...	1,898	40,220.21	68	T. 3.48 G. 329.10 324.68	13,312	21,814.85	51,583.38
6	Torpa ...	2,373	56,305.12	25	110.34	17,143	29,231.24	84,513.60
	Subdivisional total ...	7,958	420,438.36	261	D. 0.13 T. 3.48 G. 1,259.22 1,362.17	94,061	156,386.32	352,539.57
1	Kuru ...	518	13,252.39	24	169.33	8,559	20,720.46	20,148.23
2	Bero ...	955	37,313.80	469	2,008.46	14,431	25,816.88	39,364.86
3	Burmu ...	474	72,085.08	78	226.42	6,638	10,337.25	28,628.97
4	Lapung ...	873	23,144.73	115	94.08	8,615	14,493.90	35,098.27
5	Silli ...	955	38,900.35	70	109.8	7,743	18,113.03	18,583. ■
6	Ormanjhi ...	397	25,826.41	29	176.98	6,050	10,808.42	18,390.60
7	Angara ...	535	65,124.46	36	283.55	6,044	12,757.38	30,551.37
8	Mandar ...	1,297	40,822.31	39	249.37	20,290	39,618.43	44,700.15
9	Ranchi ...	1,895	94,339.98	181	2,250.28	38,381	75,119.59	108,247.28
10	Lohardaga ...	1,915	162,354.21	■	470.54	46,749	64,991.22	83,020.60
	Subdivisional total ...	9,224	563,163.70	1,096	6,033.09	163,460	292,676.55	424,833.29

DAR RAIYATS.										
Uncultivated.	Total.	Khat. ana.	Oultivated.		Uncultivated.	Total.	Jinnl.	Rent.	Average rent per acre on don area.	Average rent per acre on total area.
			Don.	Tanr.						
106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116
45,362-71	133,417-79	102	129-86	199-98	6-96	336-78	D. 140-97 T. 233-14 G. 8-85 377-56	201 3 11	1 8 10	0 9 7
55,769-27	132,421-23	489	143-88	197-99	9-48	351-35	D. 202-86 T. 240-26 G. 8-59 350-41	213 14 1	1 7 9	0 9 9
87,929-90	142,493-53	127	117-28	245-12	9-10	371-50	D. 5-89 T. 23-75 G. -11 23-76	166 12 9	1 6 9	0 7 2
131,045-57	197,828-76	133	62-86	123-76	3-75	190-37	D. 5 T. 2-23 G. 8-53	66 11 9	1 1 0	0 5 7
161,577-02	253,759-21	366	172-68	358-52	13-11	544-31	D. 15-50 T. 11-55 G. 27-45	188 1 5	1 1 5	0 5 6
73,188-61	189,320-59	924	192-22	465-1	18-6	675-29	D. 47-98 T. 68-63 G. 24 107-85	163 0 3 1/2	0 13 7	0 3 10
173,234-71	339,261-38	380	163-19	389-30	24-39	577-88	D. 48-10 T. 57-11 G. 1-46 100-67	159 7 3	0 15 8	0 4 5
56,847-39	180,115-24	681	213-49	368-27	48-57	630-33	D. 230-76 T. 169-49 G. 400-25	307 4 9	1 7 0	0 7 9
125,196-44	260,184-92	445	100-89	121-97	2-22	225-8	D. 242-88 D. 75-73 T. 138-96 G. 0-21 243-92	123 6 0	1 3 6	0 8 10
68,687-83	128,868-48	222	50-39	91-29	6-76	148-44	D. 27-43 T. 54-72 G. 28 82-41	77 8 4	1 8 6	0 8 4
111,019-85	151,504-05	79	20-13	16-23	9	36-45	D. 12-72 T. 9-77 G. 15-49	13 11 3	0 10 11	0 6 0
76,008	135,792-68	370	105-24	353-24	17-49	476-97	D. 1,066-23 T. 1,097-63 G. 9-23 2162-77	81 3 8	0 12 4	0 2 9
1,185,857-20	2,342,507-83	4,787	1,472-10	2,990-68	160-47	4,568-25	D. 135-66 T. 167-83 G. 58 297-41	1,762 8 5 1/2	1 2 2	0 6 2
39,938-64	93,313-49	1,108	669-07	481-43	48-30	1,216-80	D. 40-25 T. 17-34 G. 58-19	839 2 9	1 3 4	0 10 11
192,857-76	308,558-52	891	785-20	334-58	23-33	1,143-11	D. 232-32 T. 263-05 G. 2-17 477-67	1,262 8 3	1 9 9	1 1 6
32,491-23	66,032-50	681	136-92	165-83	40-51	343-26	D. 6-37 T. 7-80 G. 14-47	116 1 9	0 13 7	0 5 5
77,902-71	216,618-21	89	56-16	156-07	1-90	213-13	D. 46-68 T. 62-39 G. 112-67	333 10 5	6 15 8	1 9 0
44,148-65	127,548-88	587	192-60	448-06	46-75	687-40	D. 457-57 T. 499-74 G. 3-00 960-31	319 12 6	1 10 6	0 7 5
63,144-54	176,889-68	810	275-43	757-42	33-74	1,066-59	D. 192-98 T. 1,571-89 G. 1,764-97	309 2 9	1 1 11	0 4 7
449,983-49	988,959-38	4,086	2,135-38	2,342-38	162-53	4,670-29	D. 192-98 T. 1,571-89 G. 1,764-97	3,164 6 5	1 7 3	0 10 10
22,097-36	62,968-4	392	87-47	85-87	3-07	176-41	D. 229-09 T. 310-50 G. 588-50	34 15 0	0 6 5	0 3 2
32,110-02	97,291-76	2,741	349-30	196-31	243-07	737-68	D. 178-58 T. 200-66 G. 376-24	550 7 2	1 9 2	0 11 2
73,877-60	112,743-72	571	190-67	333-79	17-58	482-04	D. 81-50 T. 77-63 G. 169-13	263 9 10	1 14 11	0 8 5
25,264-58	74,857-10	401	993-76	150-58	11-61	1,195-95	D. 170-05 T. 57-36 G. 236-61	162 5 10	0 2 5	0 2 0
42,212-75	78,969-34	712	348-37	384-08	44-52	776-27	D. 123-06 T. 202-79 G. 331-56	307 0 6	0 14 1	0 5 4
27,092-11	56,290-94	748	138-03	226-74	16-53	381-35	D. 92-05 T. 97-45 G. 190-10	226 11 1	1 10 3	0 9 6
67,726-42	111,135-17	474	119-13	222-52	8-78	350-23	D. 297-91 T. 354-67 G. 652-58	222 6 3	1 13 10	0 10 1
43,602-84	127,921-42	887	190-36	236-36	9-40	436-12	D. 537-04 T. 1,127-43 G. 1,665-07	307 3 4	1 9 10	0 11 3
105,139-28	286,506-15	2,797	890-17	1,547-92	119-15	2,556-04	D. 302-25 T. 395-10 G. 697-35	780 13 6	0 13 8	0 4 9
156,431-54	304,443-36	1,379	377-43	328-63	48-63	756-69	D. 2,327-61 T. 4,303-38 G. 6,638-40	726 11 2	1 4 10	0 5 4
595,555-15	1,313,065-00	11,102	3,624-69	3,751-60	523-19	7,896-48		3,542 3 8	0 15 8	0 7 2

APPENDIX VII.

Statement of area according to classification of soils.

Serial No.	NAME OF THANA.	Don I and II.	Don III and IV.	Tanr I.	Tanr II and III.	Uncultivated area.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		A. D.	A. D.	A.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.
1	Gumla ...	14,251 68	16,904 36	1,212 73	56,296 31	45,352 71	133,417 70
2	Ghaghra ...	9,124 16	14,631 90	965 00	51,929 97	55,769 27	132,421 23
3	Palkot ...	6,834 37	10,491 04	805 53	36,572 68	37,929 90	142,433 00
4	Kurdeg ...	6,784 53	11,763 76	1,007 70	47,227 15	131,045 67	197,828 76
5	Kolebira ...	10,970 45	13,409 05	1,278 45	66,524 24	161,577 00	253,759 21
6	Basia ...	14,975 92	19,098 72	1,840 06	80,117 38	73,188 51	189,230 59
7	Kochedega ...	18,829 34	20,725 27	1,865 75	104,606 29	193,234 71	339,261 36
8	Sisai ...	14,184 51	23,765 26	3,257 59	52,060 49	56,847 39	180,115 24
9	Chainpur ...	12,079 70	16,889 44	2,863 17	103,166 17	126,196 44	260,184 92
10	Raidih ...	6,893 06	8,975 60	902 77	41,469 22	63,687 00	126,868 48
11	Bishunpur ...	3,054 64	5,736 81	1,400 61	30,292 14	111,019 36	151,504 06
12	Bano ...	6,814 20	7,379 04	902 79	44,688 00	75,008 00	135,792 68
	Subdivisional total ...	124,736 61	169,170 25	18,293 08	744,750 69	1,185,857 20	2,242,807 83
1	Ranchi ...	25,620 78	49,498 81	2,879 18	103,368 10	105,139 23	236,506 15
2	Angara ...	4,974 11	7,783 27	677 77	29,973 60	67,726 42	111,135 17
3	Ormanjhi ...	3,648 49	7,959 00	481 48	17,908 52	27,092 50	56,290 94
4	Silli ...	5,637 27	12,475 76	2,288 56	16,295 01	42,212 75	78,909 34
5	Burmu ...	3,599 57	6,637 68	1,355 03	37,373 94	73,877 50	112,743 72
6	Lohárdágā ...	17,221 62	47,769 60	2,524 14	80,496 46	156,431 00	304,443 36
7	Kuru ...	4,211 12	16,509 33	510 73	19,637 50	22,097 36	62,966 04
8	Lápung ...	4,906 12	9,587 78	534 08	34,564 19	25,264 93	74,857 10
9	Bero ...	8,719 54	17,097 34	641 00	38,723 36	32,110 02	97,291 70
10	Mánder ...	10,864 19	23,754 24	904 64	43,795 51	43,802 84	127,921 43
	Subdivisional total ...	88,602 31	204,073 74	12,796 60	412,036 69	595,555 16	1,318,065 00
1	Sonahatu ...	11,325 66	17,317 81	2,282 93	22,448 55	39,938 54	92,313 49
2	Tamar ...	15,956 61	32,521 74	4,442 15	63,280 36	192,357 76	308,558 00
3	Bundu ...	5,351 67	9,256 72	1,369 57	17,573 25	32,491 29	66,032 50
4	Khunti ...	17,080 74	26,529 28	2,528 24*	92,507 24*	77,902 71*	216,613 21
5	Karra ...	8,401 33	19,413 52	1,807 42	60,275 96	44,148 65	127,546 88
6	Torpa ...	12,377 65	16,553 59	2,006 02	82,507 88	63,144 54	176,889 63
	Subdivisional total ...	70,493 66	115,892 66	13,996 33	338,593 24	449,983 49	988,959 38

* In the *Santhi* *khazra*, the area for *tanr* is 95,348'06 and the area under uncultivated is 77,680'13. The difference of 242'53 acres is due to alterations made in *Janak*.

† Does not include 1,673'40 acres unkhazrapuried municipal area of Ranchi town.

Statement of Mortgages.

BEFORE PASSING OF THE ACT (1903).										AFTER PASSING OF THE ACT (1903).									
NAME OF SUBDIVISION.	TOTAL NUMBER OF MORTGAGES.				TOTAL AREA MORTGAGED.				AMOUNT.		TOTAL NUMBER OF MORTGAGES.	TOTAL AREA MORTGAGED.				AMOUNT.			
	Sale.	Zar. peshgi.	Bhu. gut.	Zarpeshgi.		Bhugut.		Sale.	Zarpeshgi.	Bhugut.		Zar. peshgi.	Bhugut.	Don.	Tanr.	Zarpeshgi.	Bhugut.	Don.	Tanr.
				Don.	Tanr.	Don.	Tanr.												
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
TENURE-HOLDERS, MUNDARI Khushtkaddars and Bhushkars.																			
Khunti	...	...	...	6,647 07	2,439 10	661 98	161 10	...	2,53,118 2 6	3,659 5	6	...	10 71	...	...	...	825 0 0	...
Gumla	...	...	...	3,973 82	2,611 86	75 22	25 0	...	1,43,156 6 0	805 4	199	13	3 2 38	207 30	22 33	6 65	11,599 13 0	156 8
Sadar	...	...	...	6,681 81	2,267 42	67 98	13 09	...	4,77,268 15 6	2,230 0	1,202	3	1,286 61	412 34	3 40	...	1,13,320 14 0	446 10
Total	...	...	...	17,802 20	7,218 37	806 13	199 12	...	8,33,643 8 0	6,694 9	1,407	16	1,609 70	619 64	25 23	5 65	1,25,245 11 0	603 2
RAIYATS.																			
Khunti	...	3,387	280	3,642 91	1,739 90	217 75	80 00	...	89,106 8 4	1,194 8	3	...	6 81	...	...	...	70 0 0	...
Gumla	...	1,061	65	1,235 65	877 08	81 63	80 24	...	45,698 15 6	836 15	357	12	562 83	362 17	7 77	13 30	17,916 13 6	61 0	
Sadar	...	5,279	20	4,847 13	2,314 76	10 36	8 96	105	296,189 1 0	1,390 2	4,880	4	4,541 73	1,923 40	16 96	...	3,80,691 12 3	86 8	
Total	...	9,677	305	9,725 63	4,931 74	315 73	170 19	105	4,30,194 8 10	3,421 9	5,240	16	5,110 37	2,286 67	24 67	13 50	3,48,677 9 9	147 8	
BOTH COMBINED.																			
Total of Tenure-holders and Mundari khushtkaddars.	...	13,394	409	17,302 20	7,218 37	805 13	199 12	...	8,83,543 8 0	6,694 9	1,407	16	1,609 70	619 64	25 23	5 65	1,25,245 11 0	603 2	
Total of raiyats.	1	9,677	305	9,725 68	4,931 74	315 73	170 19	105	4,30,994 8 10	3,421 9	5,240	16	5,110 37	2,285 67	24 67	13 30	3,48,677 9 9	147 8	
GRAND TOTAL	1	23,011	714	27,027 88	12,150 11	1,120 86	369 31	105	13,14,538 0 10	10,116 2	6,647	32	6,720 07	2,905 21	49 00	18 95	4,73,823 4 9	756 10	

APPENDIX IX.

NOTIFICATIONS.

Number of notification with date.	Act.	Purport of notification.
1	2	3
4164L. R., the 1th November 1908.	Chota Nagpur Tenancy Act.	Under section 80 for thanas Chainpur, Ghaghra (including outpost Bishunpur), Sisai, Lohardaga (including outposts Kuru and Bero), Lapung, Mandar, Silli and Ranchi (including outposts Angara and Ormanjhi) and six villages, Ronhe, Jiputoli, Sarambel, Murpa, Ata and Kedli in thana Karra.
4165L. R., the 11th November 1908.	Ditto ...	Under section 106 for thanas mentioned in No. 4164.
4166L. R., the 11th November 1908.	Ditto ...	Under section 119 for thanas Lohardaga (including Kuru and Bero), Sisai, Lapung, Mandar, Silli and Ranchi (including Angara and Ormanjhi), and 6 villages, Ronhe, Jiputoli, Sarambel, Mutpa, Ata and Kedli in thana Karra.
4167L. R., the 11th November 1908.	Ditto ...	Under section 127 for thanas mentioned in No. 4166.
569T. R., the 13th May 1909.	Ditto ...	Under section 119 for thanas Tamar (including Bundu), Khunti (including Torpa), Sonahatu, Karra (excluding villages Ronhe, Jiputoli, Sarambel, Mutpa, Ata and Kedli), Basia, Kalebira (including Bano), Kochdega, Kurdeg, Palkot, Gumla (including Raidih), Chainpur (including Bishunpur) and Ghaghra.
1776T. R., the 6th September 1909.	Ditto ...	Under section 84 for thanas Sonahatu, Tamar (including outpost Bundu), Khunti (including outpost Torpa), Karra (except villages Kedli, Ata, Mutpa, Jiputoli, Sarambel and Ronhe), Basia, Kalebira (including outpost Bano), Kurdeg, Kochdega, Palkot, Gumla (including outpost Raidih), Chainpur, Ghaghra (including outpost Bishunpur).
1451T. R., the 10th September 1910.	Ditto ...	Under section 84 for thanas Sisai, Lapung, Lohardaga (including Bero and Kuru, with the exception of Lapur and Hanhat), and for Ronhe, Jiputoli, Sarambel, Mutpa, Ata, Kedli in thana Karra and Murkuni, Sakra, Loio and Talkundo in thana Mandar and Harhi, and Palondu in thana Ranchi.
917T. R., the 5th June 1903, 2208L.R., the 18th July 1903, and 3361L.R., the 20th November 1903.	Bengal Tenancy Act.	Under section 101 for thanas Tamar and Khunti.
2347T. R., the 24th September 1903, and 3361L.R., the 20th November 1903.	Ditto ...	Ditto ditto Silli, Karra and Bano.
3362L. R., the 20th November 1903.	Ditto ...	Ditto ditto Kalebira and Basia.
2981L. R., the 31st October 1904.	Ditto ...	Ditto ditto Kochdega, Kurdeg, Palkot and Gumla.
4148L. R., the 16th November 1904.	Ditto ...	Under section 101 for thanas Chainpur, Ghaghra, Sisai, Lohardaga, Mandar and Ranchi.
2783L. R., the 7th August 1907.	Ditto ...	Under section 101 for thana Lapung.
2958T.R., the 28th October 1904.	Commutation Act (repealed.)	Under section 5 for thanas Kochdega, Kurdeg, Palkot, Gumla, Tamar, Khunti, Silli, Karra, Basia and Kalebira.
4149L.R., the 16th November 1904.	Ditto ...	Under section 5 for thanas Chainpur, Ghaghra, Sisai, Lohardaga, Mandar and Ranchi.
2784L. R., the 7th August 1907.	Bengal Tenancy Act.	Under section 5 for thana Lapung.
1414L.R., the 3rd March 1902.	Bengal Survey Act.	Ditto for thanas Tamar, Khunti and Bano.
371L.R., the 23rd January 1903.	Ditto ...	Ditto ditto Karra and Silli.
3360L. R., the 20th November 1903.	Ditto ...	Ditto ditto Kalebira and Basia.
2153T. R., the 21st September 1904.	Ditto ...	Ditto ditto Kochdega, Kurdeg, Palkot and Gumla.
4147L.R., the 16th November 1904.	Ditto ...	Under section 3 for thanas Chainpur, Ghaghra, Sisai, Lohardaga, Mandar and Ranchi.
2782L.R., the 7th August 1907.	Ditto ...	Under section 3 for thana Lapung.

APPENDIX X.

ENACTMENTS IN FORCE IN THE DISTRICTS OF THE CHOTA NAGPUR DIVISION.

No. 1401, dated Simla, the 21st October 1881.

From—A. MACKENZIE, Esq., Offg. Secretary to the Govt. of India, Home Dept.,
To—The Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal, Judicial, Political, and Appointment Depts.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 3600J., dated the 5th ultimo, submitting for formal sanction, and for publication in the *Gazette of India*, amended notifications* declaring the enactments in force in, and to be extended to, the districts in the Chota Nagpur Division.

* Marked A, B, C, D, E, F, and G.

2. In reply, I am to say that with the following modifications the notifications are approved and will be published in the *Gazette of India* of the 22nd instant.

3. Act XII of 1879 (amending the Civil Procedure Code, the Registration Act 1877, and the Limitation Act, 1877) which is inserted in the schedules to notifications C, D, E, and F has been omitted, because, as pointed out in paragraph 2 of the letter from this office, No. 727, dated the 28th May last, that Act, in so far as it amends the Civil Procedure Code, was extended to all the districts of the Chota Nagpur Division by Home, Revenue, and Agriculture Department notification No. 1259, dated the 1st December 1880, while, in so far as it amends the Registration and Limitation Acts, it is entered in the schedule to notification B. The attention of the local officers will doubtless be drawn by the Government of Bengal to any separate notifications now in force extending Acts not included in these schedules.

4. With regard to notification A, I am to observe that in view of the provisions of section 1, paragraph 2, and section 3 of the Scheduled Districts Act, the correct procedure appears to be first to declare the Act itself in force in a scheduled district, and then to declare any other enactment or enactments in force in such district, by a separate notification. Accordingly, the reference to Act XIV of 1859 in notification A has been omitted, and section 15 of that Act has been declared in force in the Kolhan by a separate notification. Further, the second clause to this notification seems scarcely necessary, and has also been omitted. Such a clause is only inserted in a notification declaring a large number of enactments in force in a district, in order to remove any doubt which may possibly arise as to whether the list of enactments is intended to be an exhaustive list of *all* enactments in force in the place to which such notification relates.

5. As Bengal Acts IX of 1879 (Court of Wards) and VII of 1878 (Excise Revenue), which are entered in the schedule to notification B, have been amended by Bengal Acts III of 1881 (Court of Wards) and IV of 1881 (the Bengal Excise Act Amendment Act, 1881), these two latter Acts have also been entered in the schedule.

6. Lastly, I am to say that it is not understood why Acts V of 1881 (Probate and Administration) and VI of 1881 (District Delegates Act), which were inserted in the schedule to the original notification submitted with your letter No. 1151J., dated the 14th March last, have been omitted from the schedule to notification B. The omission is probably accidental, and the Acts have accordingly been included in the schedule to the notification as issued.

7. A copy of the notifications, amended in accordance with the above remarks, is enclosed.

No. 1393, dated Simla, the 21st October 1881.

NOTIFICATION—By the Government of India, Home Department.

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 3 of Act XIV of 1874 (the Scheduled Districts Act), His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal is pleased, with the previous sanction of the Governor-General in Council, to declare that the said Act is in force in the Kolhan, in the district of Singhbhum, in the Chota Nagpur Division.

No. 1394.

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 3 of Act XIV of 1874 (the Scheduled Districts Act), His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal is pleased, with the previous sanction of the Governor-General in Council, to declare that the enactments mentioned in the

schedule hereto annexed are in force in the districts of Hazaribagh, Lohardugga, and Manbhoom, and in pergunnah Dhulbhoom and the Kolhan, in the district of Singhbhum, to the extent to which they are at present in force in any part of Bengal not included in any scheduled district.

2. Nothing herein contained shall be deemed to affect the operation of any enactment in force in the said portions of the Chota Nagpur Division, and not included in the said schedule.

SCHEDULE.

Bengal Regulations and Acts of the Supreme Council.

Year and number of Enactment		Subject.
1793, Regulation	XXXVIII	... Prohibition of loans by covenanted servants.
1800	X	... To prevent division of landed estates.
1806	XI	... Passage of troops.
1810	XX	... Camp-followers, bazar, cantonments.
1822	XI (section 39)	... Non-liability of Government for errors of courts.
1823	VII	... Prohibitions of loans to Covenanted Civil Servants.
1825	VI	... Passage of troops.
"	XX	... Court-martial and Military Courts of Requests.
1829	XVII	... Sati.
1834, Act	II	... Secretaries to Government.
1836	X	... Indigo contracts, Lower Provinces and North-Western Provinces.
"	XXI	... Creating zillahs.
"	XXVI	... Governor-General's camp police.
1838	XXV	... Wills made between 1st February 1839 and 1st January 1866.
1839	XXIX	... Dower.
"	XXX	... Inheritance.
1840	VI	... Bills-of-exchange.
1841	XXIV	... Illusory appointments : Infants' property.
"	XXVII	... Unclaimed dividonds in insolvents' estates.
1842	IX	... Extending 4 and 5 Vic., cap. 21 (lease and release).
1843	V	... Slavery.
1847	IX	... Assessment of new lands, Lower Provinces.
"	XX	... Copyright.
1848	XX	... Enforcement of attendance of landholders.
1850	XII	... Public accountants.
"	XVIII	... Protection of Judicial officers.
"	XIX	... Binding of apprentices.
"	XXI	... Non-forfeiture of rights by loss of caste.
"	XXV	... Forfeiture of deposits on land sales.
"	XXXIV	... State prisoners.
"	XXXVII	... Enquiries into the behaviour of public servants.
"	XLIV	... Board of Revenue.
1851	VIII	... Tolls on roads and bridges.
1852	VIII	... Sheriff's fees.
"	XXX	... Naturalization of aliens.
"	XXXIII	... Enforcement of judgments.
1853	II	... Public charges on landholders.
"	VI	... Summary suits for arrears of rents, &c.
1854	XXXI	... Real actions : Conveyance of land.
1855	XI	... Mesne profits : Improvements.
"	XII	... Suits for wrongs : Executors and Administrators.
"	XIII	... Compensation for loss occasioned by death.
"	XXIII	... Administration of mortgaged estates.
"	XXIV	... Penal servitude.
1856	IX	... Bills-of-lading.
"	XI	... Desertion by European soldiers.
"	XV	... Marriage of Hindu widows.
1857	XI	... State offences.
"	XIII	... Opium.
"	XXV	... Forfeitures.

Year and number of Enactment.			Subject.
1858,	Act	III	... State prisoners.
"	"	XXXI	... Alluvial land.
"	"	XXXV	... Lunacy: Mofussil courts.
"	"	XXXVI	... Lunatic asylums.
"	"	XL	... Minors.
1859	"	III	... Cantonment Joint-Magistrates.
"	"	XIII	... Fraudulent breaches of contract by workmen.
"	"	XV	... Patents.
1860	"	IX	... Disputes between workmen and employers.
"	"	XXI	... Registration of societies.
"	"	XXXIV	... Indemnity for acts during mutiny.
"	"	XLV	... Penal Code.
1861	"	V	... Police.
"	"	XVI	... Stage carriages.
1862	"	III	... Government seal.
1863	"	XVI	... Excise on spirits used exclusively in manu- factures.
"	"	XX	... Religious endowments.
"	"	XXIII	... Claims to waste lands.
"	"	XXXI	... Official Gazette.
1864	"	III	... Foreigners.
"	"	VI	... Whipping.
"	"	XV	... Tolls on public roads and bridges.
1865	"	III	... Common carriers.
"	"	X	... Intestate and testamentary succession.
"	"	XI	... Small Cause Courts, Mofussil.
"	"	XV	... Parsi marriages and divorces.
"	"	XXI	... Intestate succession, Parsis.
1866	"	V	... Bills-of-exchange, Commercial law.
"	"	X	... Trading companies.
"	"	XIV	... Post office.
"	"	XXI	... Dissolution of marriages of native converts.
"	"	XXVII	... Conveyance of property vested in mort- gages and trustees.
"	"	XXVIII	... Powers of mortgages and trustees.
1867	"	VII	... Purchasing arms, &c., from soldiers.
"	"	XVI	... Acting Judges.
"	"	XXII	... Sarais and Puraos.
"	"	XXV	... Printing presses.
1868	"	I	... General clauses.
"	"	XIV	... Contagious diseases.
"	"	XXVI	... Municipal lock-hospitals.
1869	"	II	... Justice of the Peace.
"	"	IV	... Divorce.
"	"	V	... Native Articles of War.
"	"	XV	... Evidence of prisoners.
"	"	XX	... Volunteers.
1870	"	VIII	... Murder of female infants.
"	"	X	... Acquisition of land for public purposes.
"	"	XXI	... Wills of Hindus, &c.
"	"	XXII	... European British subjects.
"	"	XXIII	... Coinage and the Mint.
"	"	XXVII	... Amending Penal Code.
1871	"	I	... Cattle trespass.
"	"	III	... Paper currency.
"	"	V	... Prisoners.
"	"	VII	... Emigration.
"	"	XIX	... Sessions Judges, Bengal and North-Western Provinces.
"	"	XXIII	... Pensions.
"	"	XXVI	... Advances for agricultural improvements.
"	"	XXVII	... Criminal tribes and eunuchs.
1872	"	I	... Evidence.
"	"	III	... Marriage.
"	"	IX	... Contract law.
"	"	X	... Criminal Procedure.
"	"	XIII	... Patents and designs protection.
"	"	XV	... Marriage of Christians.

Year and number of Enactment.			Subject.
1872,	Act	XVIII	... Amending Evidence Act.
"	"	XIX	... Definition of Coin Penal Code.
1873	"	V	... Savings Bank.
"	"	X	... Judicial oaths.
"	"	XIV	... Lunatic soldier's property.
1874	"	II	... Administrator-General.
"	"	III	... Married woman's property.
"	"	IV	... Foreign recruiting.
"	"	IX	... European vagrancy.
"	"	XI	... Amending Code of Criminal Procedure.
1875	"	V	... Unattested sepoys.
"	"	VIII	... Inland customs.
"	"	IX	... Majority.
"	"	XIII	... Probates and letters-of-administration.
"	"	XVIII	... Law reports.
1876	"	I	... Telegraphs.
"	"	V	... Reformatory schools.
"	"	VII	... Extending and amending Act XXVII of 1871.
"	"	IX	... Native coinage.
"	"	XI	... Presidency Banks.
"	"	XVI	... Amending Stage Carriages Act.
"	"	XIX	... Dramatic performances.
"	"	XXI	... Amending Land Improvement Act.
1877	"	III	... Registration.
"	"	XI	... Military lunatics.
"	"	XV	... Limitation.
"	"	XVIII	... Salt.
"	"	XIX	... Ministerial officers.
1878	"	VI	... Treasure trove.
"	"	VII	... Forests.
"	"	IX	... Native press.
"	"	XI	... Arms.
"	"	XVI	... Amending Act IX of 1878.
1879	"	III	... Destruction of records.
"	"	IV	... Railway.
"	"	V	... Amending Presidency Banks Act.
"	"	XI	... Local authorities' loan.
"	"	XII	... Amending Civil Procedure Code, Registration Act, 1877, and Limitation Act, 1877.*
"	"	XVIII	... Legal practitioners.
"	"	XX	... Glanders and farcy.
"	"	XXI	... Extradition.
1880	"	I	... Religious societies.
"	"	III	... Cantonments.
"	"	VIII	... Correcting a clerical error in the Indian Limitation Act, 1877.
1881	"	III	... Indian securities.
"	"	V	... Probate and administration.
"	"	VI	... District Delegates Act.
"	"	IX	... Amending Administrator-General's Act.

Acts of the Bengal Council.

1862,	Act	VIII	... Zemindari daks.
1864	"	II	... Regulation of jails.
"	"	IV	... Limit of zillahs.
"	"	V	... Canal tolls.
"	"	VII	... Salt Act.
1865	"	V	... Amending Act II of 1864 (Jails).
1866	"	III	... Witnesses before Legislative Council.
1867	"	II	... Gambling.
"	"	V	... General Clauses Act.
1868	"	III	... Appeals under Regulation VII of 1822.
"	"	IV	... Assessment of new lands.
1869	"	V	... Sessions.
"	"	VII	... Police.
1871	"	XI	... Census.

* So far only as this Act amends the Indian Registration Act, 1877, and the Indian Limitation Act, 1877.

Year and number of Enactment.			Subject.
1873,	Act	I	... Amending Salt Act, 1864.
"	"	IV	... Registration of births and deaths.
"	"	VI	... Embankments.
"	"	VII	... The Labour District Emigration Act.
1875	"	V	... Survey and demarcation of land.
1876	"	I	... Registration of Mahomedan marriages and divorces.
"	"	III	... Irrigation.
"	"	V	... Mofussil Municipalities.
"	"	VI	... Agricultural disturbances.
"	"	VII	... Registration of revenue-paying estates.
"	"	VIII	... Partition.
1878	"	V	... Amending Bengal Act VII of 1876.
"	"	VI	... Latrines in first class Municipalities.
"	"	VII	... Excise revenue.
1879	"	VIII	... Powers of Settlement Officers.
"	"	IX	... Court of Wards.
1880	"	II	... Licenses.
1881	"	III	... Court of Wards.
"	"	IV	... Bengal Excise Act Amendment Act, 1881.

No. 1395.

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 3 of Act XIV of 1874 (the Scheduled Districts Act), His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal is pleased, with the previous sanction of the Governor-General in Council, to declare that the enactments mentioned in the schedule hereto annexed are in force in the district of Hazaribagh, in the Ohota Nagpur Division, to the extent to which they are now in force in any part of Bengal not included in any scheduled district.

2. Nothing herein contained shall be deemed to affect the operation of any enactment in force in the said district, and not included in the said schedule.

SCHEDULE.

Bengal Regulations and Acts of the Supreme Council.

Year and number of Enactment.			Subject.
1793, Regulation	I	...	Perpetual settlement.
"	II	...	Collection of land revenue.
"	VIII	...	Rules for decennial settlement.
"	XI	...	Native laws of inheritance to revenue-paying land.
"	XIX	...	Title of land exempt from revenue.
1794	III	...	Arrears of revenue.
1798	I	...	Conditional sales of land.
1799	V	...	Wills and intestacies of Natives.
1800	VIII	...	Pergunnah register of lands.
1804	X	...	Punishment by Court Martial of certain State offences.
1806	XVII (secs. 7 and 8)	...	Mortgages and conditional sales.
1810	XIX	...	Maintenance of bridges.
1812	V	...	Collection of land revenue.
1817	XX	...	Various rules for the guidance of police.
1818	III	...	State prisoners.
1819	II	...	Resumption of revenue-free lands.
"	VI	...	Ferries.
1821	IV	...	Powers of Collectors and Magistrates.
1822	VII	...	Settlements.
1825	IX	...	Defaulting malguzars.
"	XIII	...	Settlement of resumed lakhiraj land.
"	XIV	...	Authority to confirm lakhiraj tenures.
1827	III	...	Extortion by Native officers.
"	V	...	Management of estates under attachment.

Year and number of Enactment.			Subject.
1828, Regulation	IV	...	Collectors.
1833, "	IX	...	Deputy Collectors.
1837, Act	IV	...	Power to acquire land.
1839, "	XXXII	...	Interest.
1841, "	XI	...	Military Courts of Requests.
"	XII	...	Sales of land for revenue arrears.
"	XIX	...	Curators in cases of succession.
1842, "	XII	...	Military bazars.
1853, "	XIX	...	Resonant witness.
1855, "	XXVIII	...	Interest.
1856, "	XII	...	Civil Court Amine.
1859, "	IX	...	Forfeiture (sections 16, 17, 18, and 20).
1860, "	XXVII	...	Collection of debts on succession.
1861, "	IX	...	Minors.
1870, "	VII	...	Court-fees.
"	XX	...	Amending Court-fees Act.
1871, "	VI	...	Civil Courts, Bengal.
1879, "	I	...	Stamps.
1881, "	VII	...	Amending Bengal Cess Act.
<i>Acts of the Bengal Council.</i>			
1865, Act	VIII	...	Amending the law for the sale of under tenures.
1866, "	I	...	Amending Regulation VI of 1819 (Ferries).
1880, "	IX	...	Cess Act.
1881, "	II	...	Amending Cess Act, 1880.

No. 1396.

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 3 of Act XIV of 1874 (the Schedule Districts Act), His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal is pleased, with the previous sanction of the Governor-General in Council, to declare that the enactments mentioned in the schedule hereto annexed are in force in the district of Lohardugga, in the Chota Nagpur Division, to the extent to which they are now in force in any part of Bengal not included in any scheduled district.

2. Nothing herein contained shall be deemed to affect the operation of any enactment in force in the said district, and not included in the said schedule.

SCHEDULE.

Bengal Regulations and Acts of the Supreme Council.

Year and number of Enactment.			Subject.
1793, Regulation	II	...	Collection of land revenue.
"	XI	...	Native laws of inheritance to revenue-paying land.
"	XIX	...	Title of land exempt from revenue.
1794, "	III	...	Arrears of revenue.
1798, "	I	...	Conditional sales of lands.
1799, "	V	...	Wills and intestacies of Natives.
1800, "	VIII	...	Pergunnah register of lands.
1804, "	X	...	Punishment by Court Martial of certain State offences.
1806, "	XVII (secs. 7 and 8)	...	Mortgages and conditional sales.
1810, "	XIX	...	Maintenance of bridges.
1817, "	XX	...	Various rules for the guidance of police.
1818, "	III	...	State prisoners.
1819, "	II	...	Resumption of revenue-free land.
"	VI	...	Ferries.
1821, "	IV	...	Powers of Collectors and Magistrates.
1822, "	VII	...	Settlements.
1827, "	III	...	Extortion by Native officers.
"	V	...	Management of estates under attachment.
1828, "	IV	...	Collectors.

Year and number of Enactment.			Subject.
1821, Regulation	IV	...	Powers of Collectors and Magistrates.
1822	VII	...	Settlements.
1825	IX	...	Defaulting malguzars.
"	XIII	...	Settlement of resumed lakhiraj land.
"	XIV	...	Authority to confirm lakhiraj tenures.
1827	III	...	Extortion by Native officers.
"	V	...	Management of estates under attachment.
1828	IV	...	Collectors.
1833	IX	...	Deputy Collectors.
1837, Act	IV	...	Power to acquire land.
1839	XXXII	...	Interest.
1841	XI	...	Military Courts of Requests.
"	XII	...	Sales of land for revenue arrears.
"	XIX	...	Curators in cases of succession.
1850	XXXIII	...	Sale of Patni tenures, Bengal.
1853	XIX	...	Recusant witness.
1855	XXVIII	...	Interest.
1856	XII	...	Civil Court Amins.
1859	IX	...	Forfeiture (sections 16, 17, 18, and 20).
"	X	...	Rent Act,
1860	XXVII	...	Collection of debts on succession.
1861	IX	...	Minors.
1870	VII	...	Court-fees.
"	XX	...	Amending Court-fees Act.
1871	VI	...	Civil Courts, Bengal.
1879	I	...	Stamps.
1881	VII	...	Amending Bengal Cess Act.
<i>Acts of the Bengal Council.</i>			
1862, Act	VI	...	Amending Act X of 1859.
"	VII	...	Giving Civil Courts jurisdiction in cases under section 30, Regulation II of 1819.
1865	VIII	...	Amending the law for the sale of under-tenures.
1866	I	...	Ferries.
1867	IV	...	To explain and amend Act VI of 1862.
1870	VI	...	Village chowkidars.
1871	I	...	Amending the Village Chowkidari Act.
1880	IX	...	Cess Act.
1881	II	...	Amending Cess Act, 1880.

No. 1398.

IN exercise of the powers conferred by section 3 of Act XIV of 1874 (the Scheduled Districts Act), His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal is pleased, with the previous sanction of the Governor-General in Council, to declare that the enactments mentioned in the schedule hereto annexed are in force in pergunnah Dulbhoom, in the district of Singhboom, in the Chota Nagpur Division, to the extent to which they are now in force in any part of Bengal not included in any scheduled district.

2. Nothing herein contained shall be deemed to affect the operation of any enactment in force in the said pergunnah, and not included in the said schedule.

SCHEDULE.

Bengal Regulations and Acts of the Supreme Council.

Year and number of Enactment.			Subject.
1793, Regulation	I	...	Perpetual settlement.
"	II	...	Collection of land revenue.
"	VIII	...	Rules for decennial settlement.
"	XI	...	Native laws of inheritance to revenue-paying land.
"	XIX	...	Title of land exempt from revenue.
1794	III	...	Arrears of revenue.

Year and number of Enactment.				Subject.
1833, Regulation	IX	...	...	Deputy Collectors.
1837, Act	IV	...	...	Power to acquire land.
1839, "	XXXII	...	...	Interest.
1841, "	XI	...	...	Military Courts of Requests.
"	XII	...	...	Sales of land for revenue arrears.
"	XIX	...	...	Curators in cases of succession.
1842, "	XII	...	...	Military bazars.
1853, "	XIX	...	...	Recusant witness.
1855, "	XXVIII	...	...	Interest.
1856, "	XII	...	...	Civil Court Amins.
1859, "	IX	...	...	Forfeiture (sections 16, 17, 18, and 20).
1860, "	XXVII	...	...	Collection of debts on succession.
1861, "	IX	...	...	Minor.
1870, "	VII	...	...	Court-fees.
"	XX	...	...	Amending Court-fees Act.
1871, "	VI	...	...	Civil Courts, Bengal.
1879, "	I	...	...	Stamps.
1881, "	VII	...	...	Amending Bengal Cess Act.

Acts of the Bengal Council.

1862, Act	VII	...	...	Giving Civil Courts jurisdiction in case under section 30, Regulation II of 1819.
1865, "	VIII	...	...	Amending the law for the sale of under tenures.
1866, "	I	...	...	Ferries.
1880, "	IX	...	...	Cess Act.
1881, "	II	...	...	Amending Cess Act, 1880.

No. 1397.

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 3 of Act XIV of 1874 (the Scheduled Districts Act), His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal is pleased, with the previous sanction of the Governor-General in Council, to declare that the enactments mentioned in the schedule hereto annexed are in force in the district of Manbhum, in the Chota Nagpur Division, to the extent to which they are now in force in any part of Bengal not included in any scheduled district.

2. Nothing herein contained shall be deemed to affect the operation of any enactment in force in the said district, and not included in the said schedule.

SCHEDULE.

Bengal Regulations and Acts of the Supreme Council.

Year and number of Enactment.				Subject.
1793, Regulation	I	...	...	Perpetual settlement.
"	II	...	...	Collection of land revenue.
"	VIII	...	...	Rules for decennial settlement.
"	XI	...	...	Native laws of inheritance to revenue-paying land.
"	XIX	...	...	Title of land exempt from revenue.
1794, "	III	...	...	Arrears of revenue.
1798, "	I	...	...	Conditional sales of lands.
1799, "	V	...	...	Wills and intestacies of Natives.
1800, "	VIII	...	...	Pergunnah register of lands.
1804, "	X	...	...	Punishment by Court Martial of certain State offences.
1806, "	XVII (secs. 7 and 8)	...	...	Mortgages and conditional sales.
1810, "	XIX	...	...	Maintenance of bridges.
1812, "	V	...	...	Collection of land revenue.
1817, "	XX	...	...	Various rules for the guidance of police.
1818, "	III	...	...	State prisoners.
1819, "	II	...	...	Resumption of revenue-free lands.
"	VI	...	...	Ferries.
"	VIII	...	...	Patni taluks.

Year and number of Enactment.			Subject.
1798, Regulation	I	...	Conditional sales of lands.
1799	V	...	Wills and intestacies of Natives.
1800	VIII	...	Pergunnah register of lands.
1804	X	...	Punishment by Court Martial of certain State offences.
1806	XVII (secs. 7 and 8)	...	Mortgages and conditional sales.
1810	XIX	...	Maintenance of bridges.
1812	V	...	Collection of land revenue.
1817	XX	...	Various rules for the guidance of police.
1818	III	...	State prisoners.
1819	II	...	Resumption of revenue-free lands.
"	VI	...	Ferries.
"	VIII	...	Patni taluks.
1821	IV	...	Powers of Collectors and Magistrates.
1822	VII	...	Settlements.
1825	IX	...	Defaulting malguzars.
"	XIII	...	Settlement of resumed lakhiraj land.
"	XIV	...	Authority to confirm lakhiraj tenures.
1827	III	...	Extortion by Native officers.
"	V	...	Management of estates under attachment.
1828	IV	...	Collectors.
1833	IX	...	Deputy Collectors.
1837, Act	IV	...	Power to acquire land.
1839	XXXII	...	Interest.
1841	XI	...	Military Courts of Requests.
"	XII	...	Sales of land for revenue arrears.
"	XIX	...	Curators in cases of succession.
1853	XIX	...	Recusant witness.
1855	XXVIII	...	Interest.
1856	XII	...	Civil Court Amins.
1859	IX	...	Forfeiture (sections 16, 17, 18, and 20).
1860	XXVII	...	Collection of debts on succession.
1861	IX	...	Minors.
1870	VII	...	Court-fees.
"	XX	...	Amending Court-fees Act.
1871	VI	...	Civil Courts, Bengal.
1879	I	...	Stamps.
1881	VII	...	Amending Bengal Cess Act.

Acts of the Bengal Council.

1862, Act	VII	...	Giving Civil Courts jurisdiction in cases under section 30, Regulation II of 1819.
1865	VIII	...	Amending the law for the sale of under-tenures.
1866	I	...	Ferries.
1870	VI	...	Village chowkidars.
1871	I	...	Amending Village Chowkidari Act.
1880	IX	...	Cess Act.

No. 1399.

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 3 of Act XIV of 1874 (the Scheduled Districts Act), His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal is pleased, with the previous sanction of the Governor-General in Council, to declare that section 15 of Act XIV of 1859 (Limitation of Suits) is in force in the Kolhan, in the district of Singhbhum, in the Chota Nagpur Division.

No. 1400.

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 5 of Act XIV of 1874 (the Scheduled Districts Act), His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal is pleased, with the previous sanction of the Governor-General in Council, to extend Act XI of 1859 (to improve the law relating to sales of land for arrears of revenue in the Lower Provinces under the Bengal Presidency) and Bengal Acts, III of 1862 (an Act to amend Act XI of 1859) and VII of 1868 (to make further provision for the recovery of arrears of land revenue and public demands recoverable as arrears of land revenue) to the following portions of the Chota Nagpur Division, namely, the districts of Hazaribagh, Lohardugga, and Manbhum, and pergunnah Dhulbhum, and the Kolhan, in the district of Singhbhum.

APPENDIX XI.

List of the various kinds of *dhan* grown in the Ranchi district in :—

DON II.	DON III.	DON IV.
1. Badsá-bhog.	1. Bánki-rash.	1. Alsanga.
2. Bánsh-mati.	2. Bhátá-phul.	2. Jengne.
3. Bhátá-phul.	3. Dámodar.	3. Kauau.
4. Dadkháni.	4. Jengne.	4. Karhani.
5. Donrkásál.	5. Jhálar-gendá.	
6. Jhálar-gendá.	6. Kauau.	
7. Jhingá-sál.	7. Karangá.	
8. Kalam-dáni.	8. Karhani.	
9. Kherdapt.	9. Kátiká.	
10. Kishun-bhog.	10. Netá.	
11. Lachmi-bilás.	11. Rái-chuni.	
12. Mahádeo-bhog.	12. Rái-séri.	
13. Makar-kalam.	13. Sikhar-bhuinyá.	
14. Prasád-bhog.	14. Tilásár.	
15. Rái-muri.		
16. Rarhiá.		
17. Raut-goli.		
18. Sital-chini.		
19. Sri-kamal.		
20. Barká Tilásár.		



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GOVERNMENT OF BIHAR AND ORISSA.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

A. BRANCH.

No. 1701R(A).
18-74.

FROM

J. F. GRUNING, Esq., I.C.S.,

SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BIHAR AND ORISSA,
REVENUE DEPARTMENT,

TO

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND AGRICULTURE.

Ranchi, the 5th July 1912.

SIR,

I AM directed to forward for the information of the Government of India the Final Report on the Survey and Settlement operations in the district of Ranchi. The Report has been drawn up by Mr. John Reid, I.C.S., Director of Land Records, and has consequently been submitted by him to the Board of Revenue without a covering letter. It was at first intended to confine the work to the Munda country but in 1904 the Government of India sanctioned its extension to the whole district. In order that the proceedings might be based on a legal foundation Chapter X of the Bengal Tenancy Act was extended to the district but after the enactment of the Chota Nagpur Tenancy Act in 1908, the record-of-rights was prepared under Chapter XII of that Act. The operations in the Munda country were carried out by Mr. Lister, I.C.S., and in the remainder of the district by Mr. Reid who had previously worked as Mr. Lister's assistant.

2. Chapter III of the report contains an account of the history of the Ranchi district and shows how largely agrarian questions have been responsible for the unrest and the risings among the aboriginal tribes, which have occurred from time to time during the last hundred years. The encroachments of the zamindars on the rights of the aborigines, the ignorance of local customs and of land tenures prevalent in the courts, which in the absence of any records had little or no chance of learning anything about them, and the presence of Christian Missionaries who aided their converts to resist the oppressions of their landlords and to maintain their rights, all played their parts in the agrarian discontent. Various palliative measures were taken but these proved a failure and in the end it became evident that the only remedy was the preparation by experienced and sympathetic officers, on the basis of a survey and of local enquiries of a record of existing rights, duties and customs. The wisdom of this decision is proved by the enormous decrease in litigation concerning rents and lands, and I am to invite attention to the opinions of the representative non-official gentlemen on this point quoted in paragraph 324 of the Report.

3. Section 46 of the Chota Nagpur Tenancy Act prohibits the transfer by a raiyat of his holding or any portion thereof except by terminable mortgage. The Settlement Officer considers that it is too early yet to come to a decision on the effect of these restrictions but he is inclined to think that the money-lenders are systematically evading the law. This point will not be lost sight of by the Local Government and should it appear that the objects of the Act of 1908 have not been fulfilled, it may be necessary to restrict still further the right of transfer of holdings.

4. Irrigation is rarely practised in the district though the large numbers of rivers and streams afford great opportunities for it. Enquiries will be made with a view to seeing what action can be taken to encourage the construction of bunds in suitable places.

5. The important question of the preservation of forests and jungles is discussed in Chapter IX and the recommendations made by the Settlement Officer in paragraphs 304-308 will be considered in due course in connection with the proposed Private Forest's Bill.

6. The cost rate of the operations works out at Rs. 230 a square mile and the total expenditure is less by over four lakhs of rupees than the original estimate. Imperial revenues bear one-fourth of the cost and on account of the poverty of the district all charges under the head "contributions to leave and pension allowances of gazetted officers" have been remitted. In addition the Secretary of State in his despatch No. Revenue-106, dated the 5th July 1907, agreed that any deficit the share of the cost realizable from the landlords and the tenants up to a margin of 2½ lakhs of rupees should be debited to Imperial Funds. At the rates fixed it is estimated that the deficit will amount to Rs. 1,40,000. The Lieutenant-Governor trusts that the Government of India will consider these results satisfactory.

7. His Honour is confident that the Government of India will read the report with much interest, and trusts that they will concur in his opinion that Messrs. Lister and Reid deserve great credit for the excellent work done by them.



I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient servant,

J. F. GRUNING,

Secretary to Government.

No. 932—280-2.

FROM

THE HON'BLE MR. E. D. MACLAGAN, C.S.I., I.C.S.,
SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND AGRICULTURE,

TO

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF
BIHAR AND ORISSA, REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Simla, the 9th August 1912.

SIR,

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1701, dated the 5th July 1912, forwarding a copy of the Final Report of the Survey and Settlement operations in the district of Ranchi. The Government of India agree with the Local Government in considering the results of the operations to be of a satisfactory character, and concur in the Lieutenant-Governor's opinion regarding the excellent work done by Messrs. Lister and Reid.

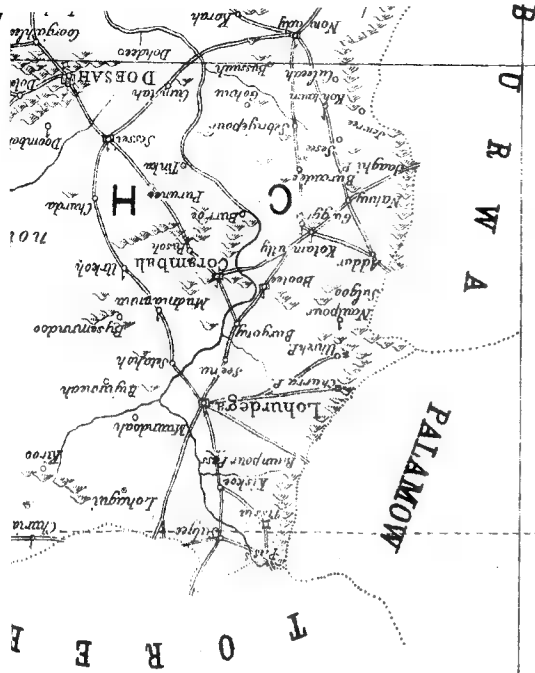
I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

E. D. MACLAGAN,

Secretary.



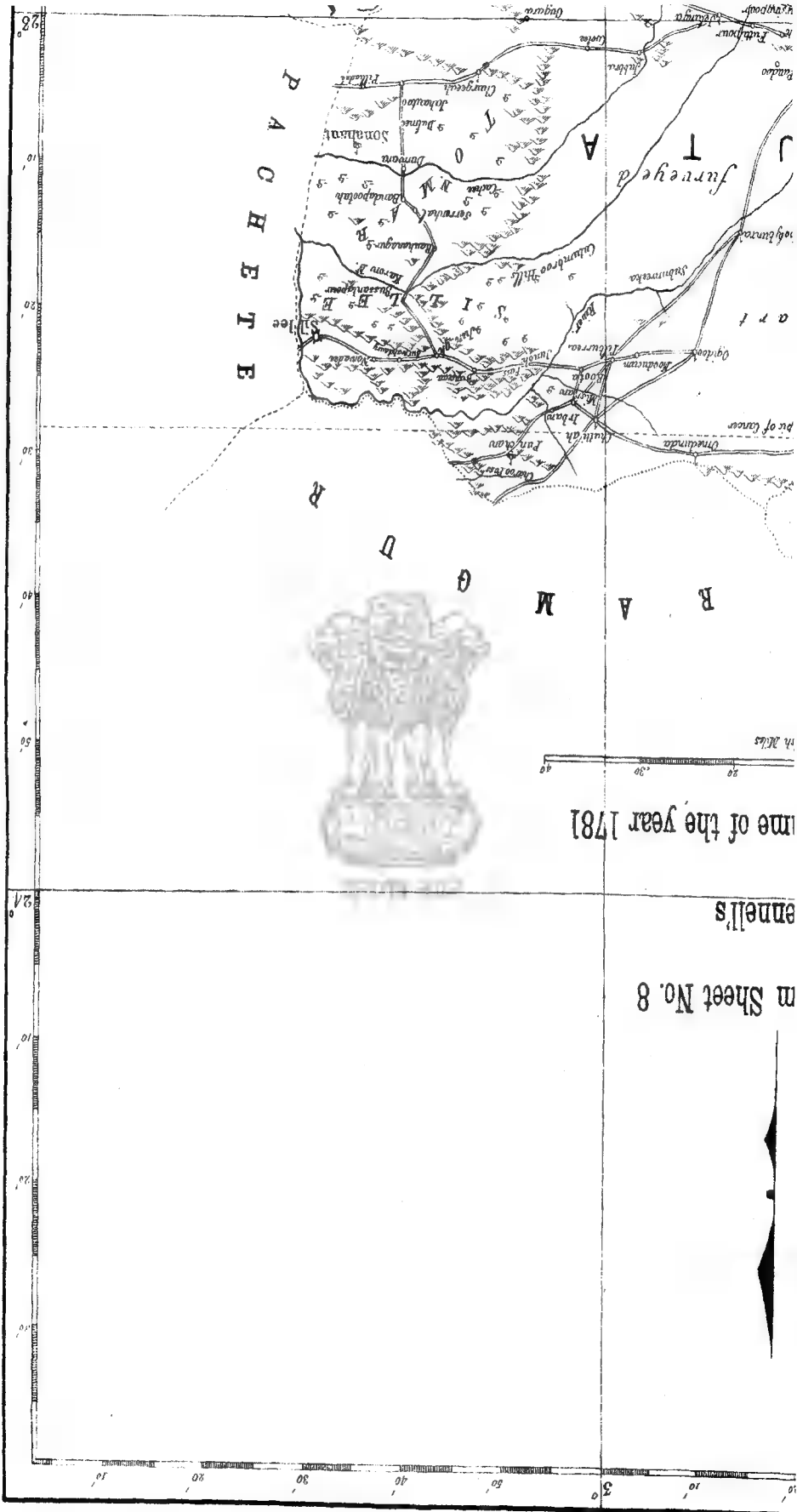
Bengal Atlas V

Extract



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40' 30' 20' 10' 0' 10' 20' 30' 40'



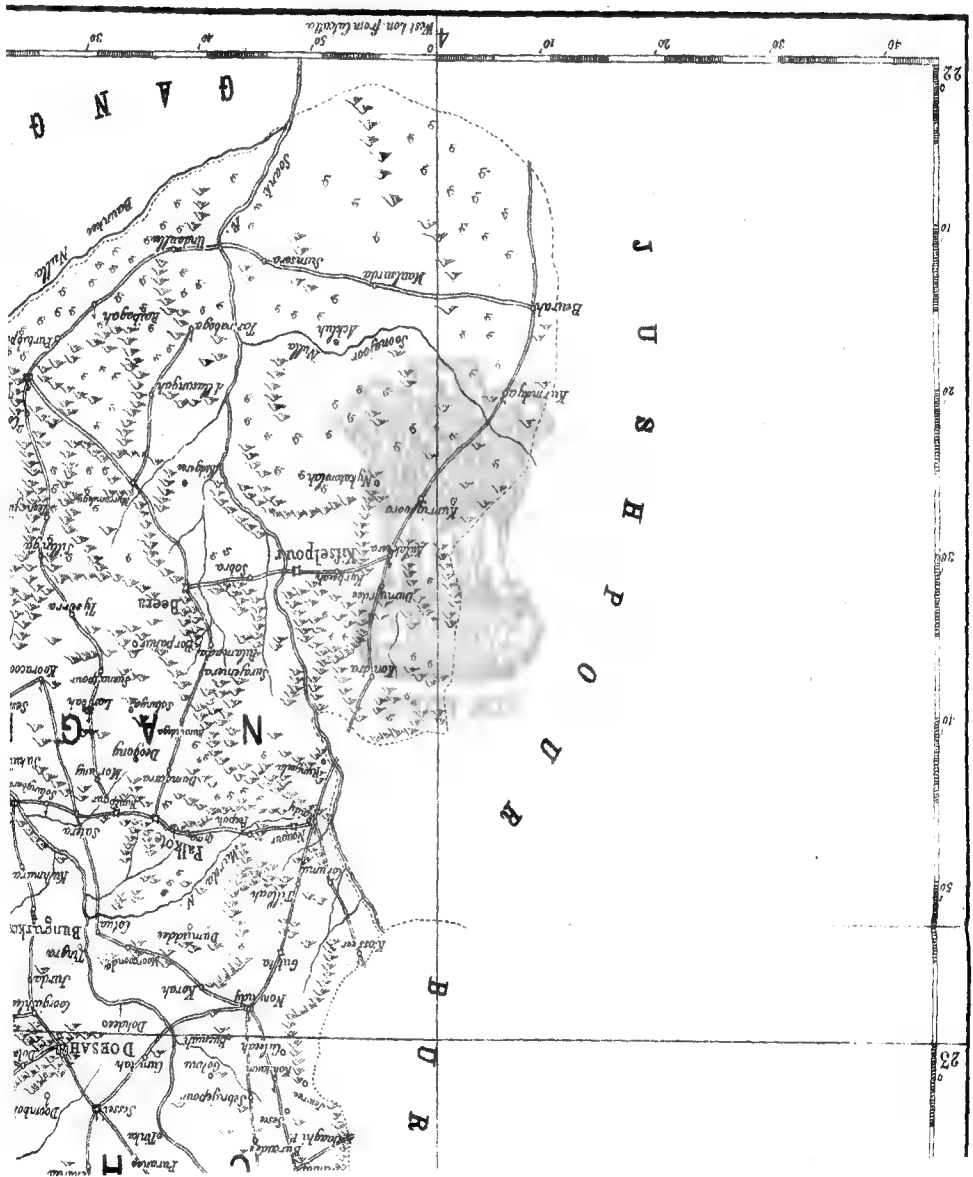
Bay of Bengal

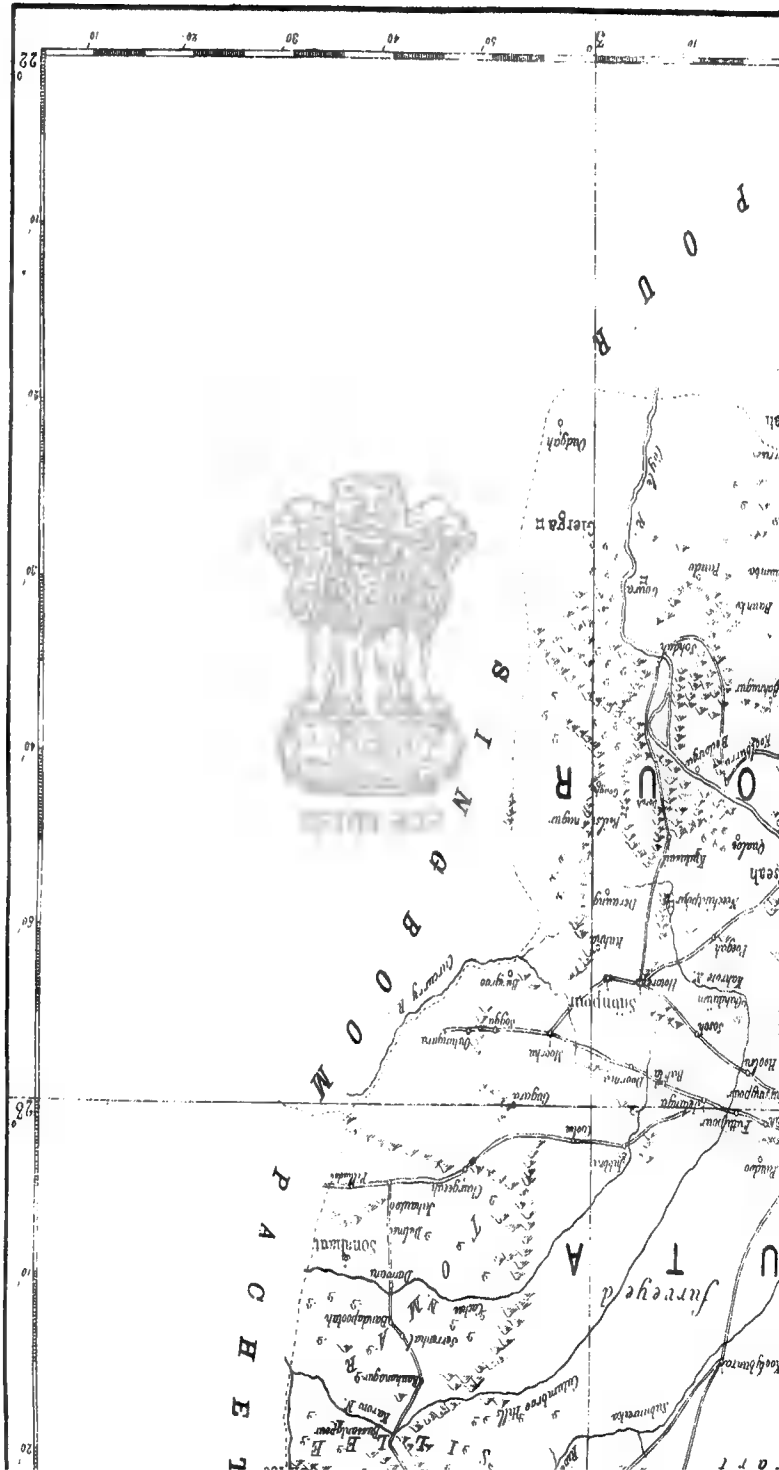
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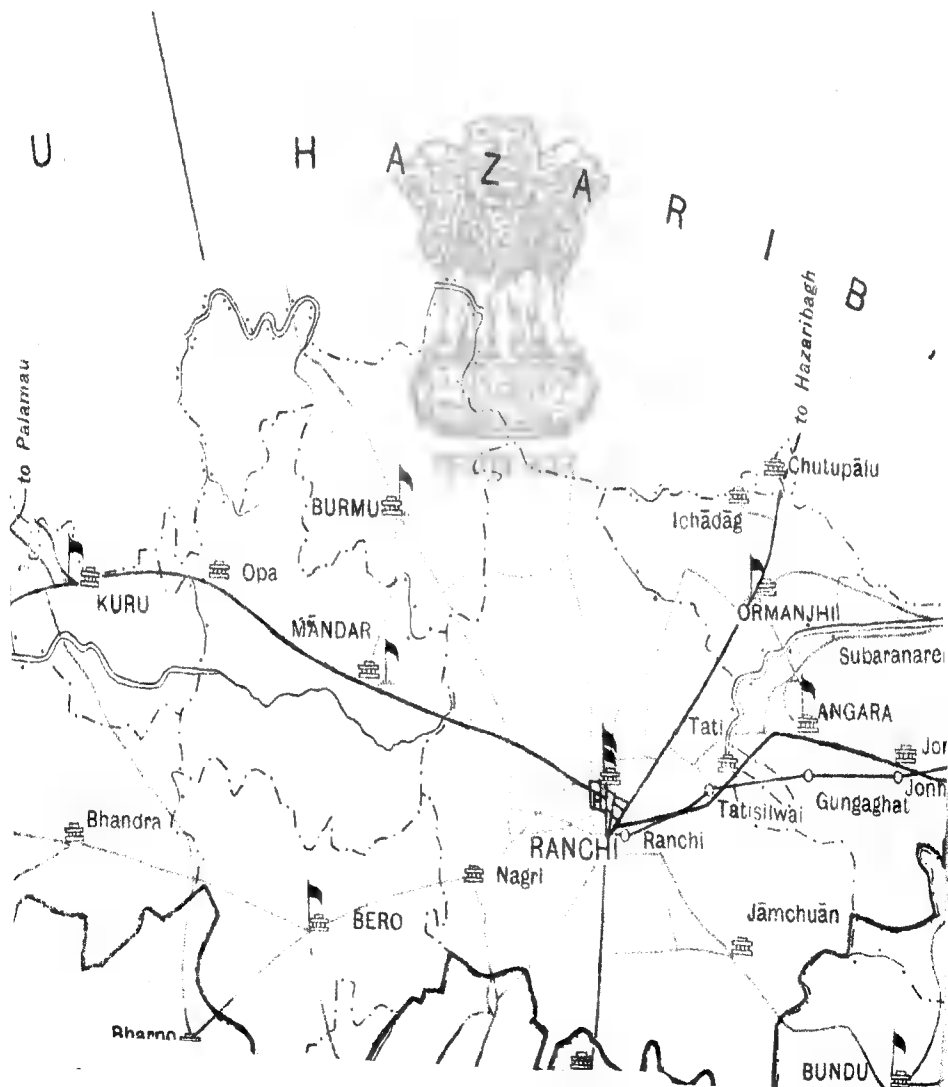
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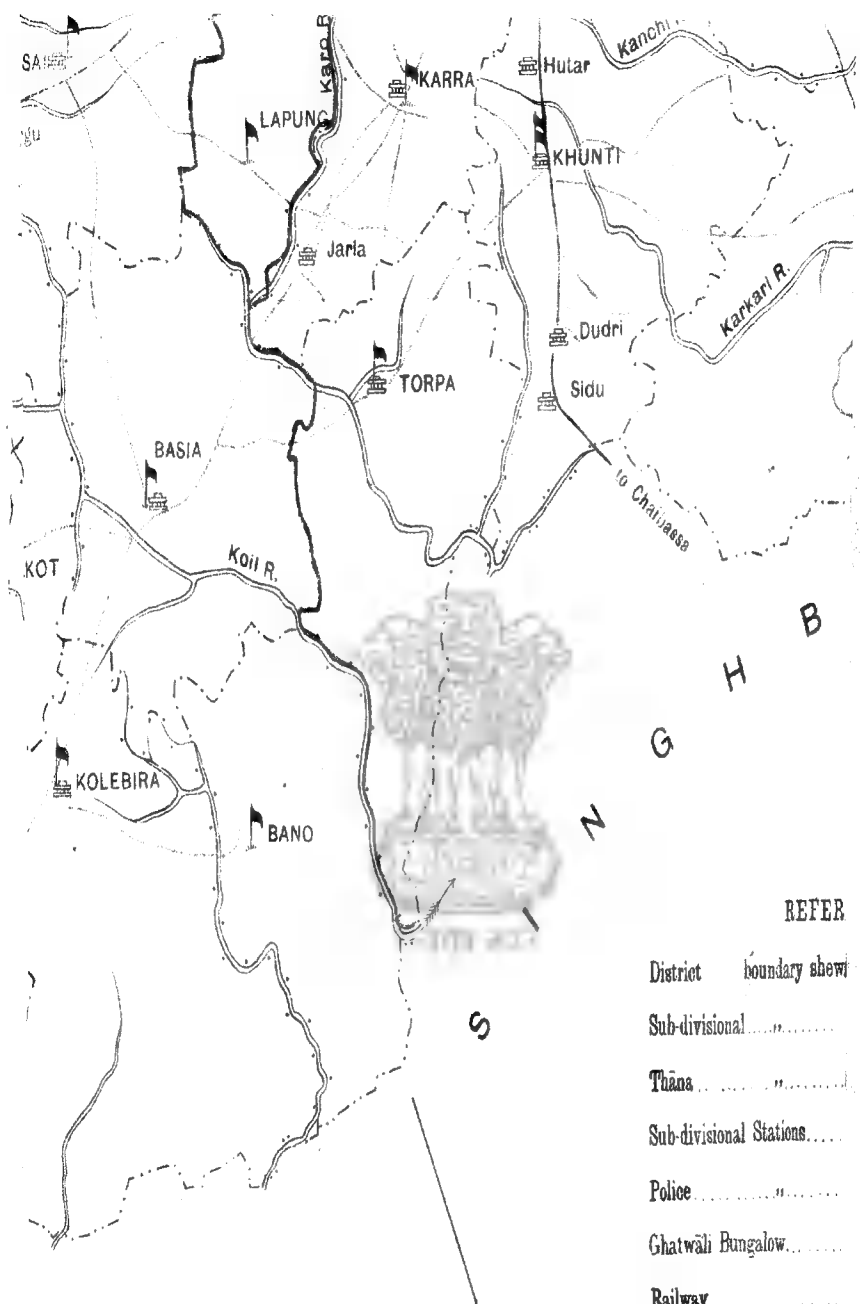




DISTRICT RANCHI

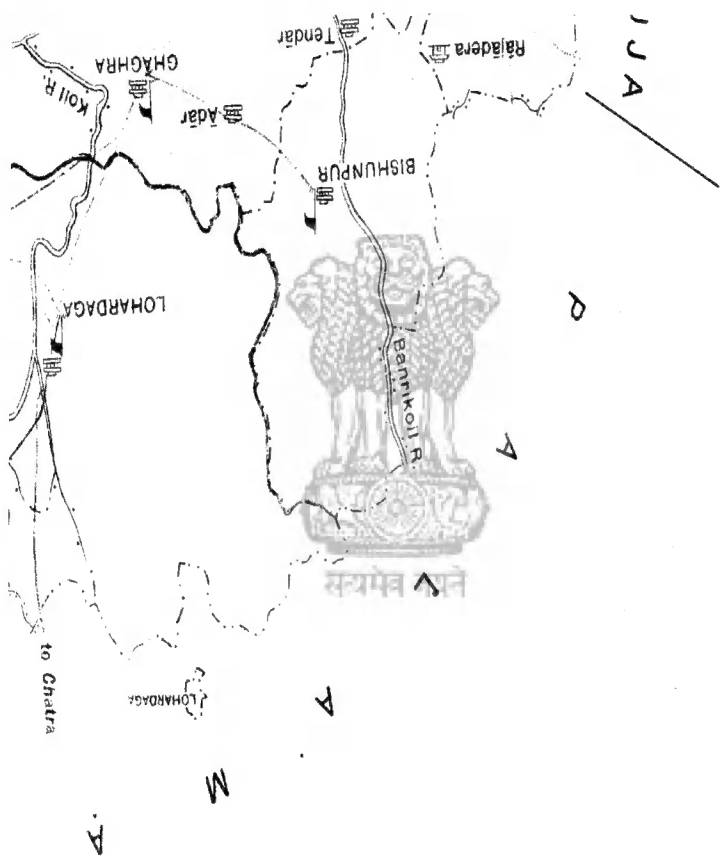
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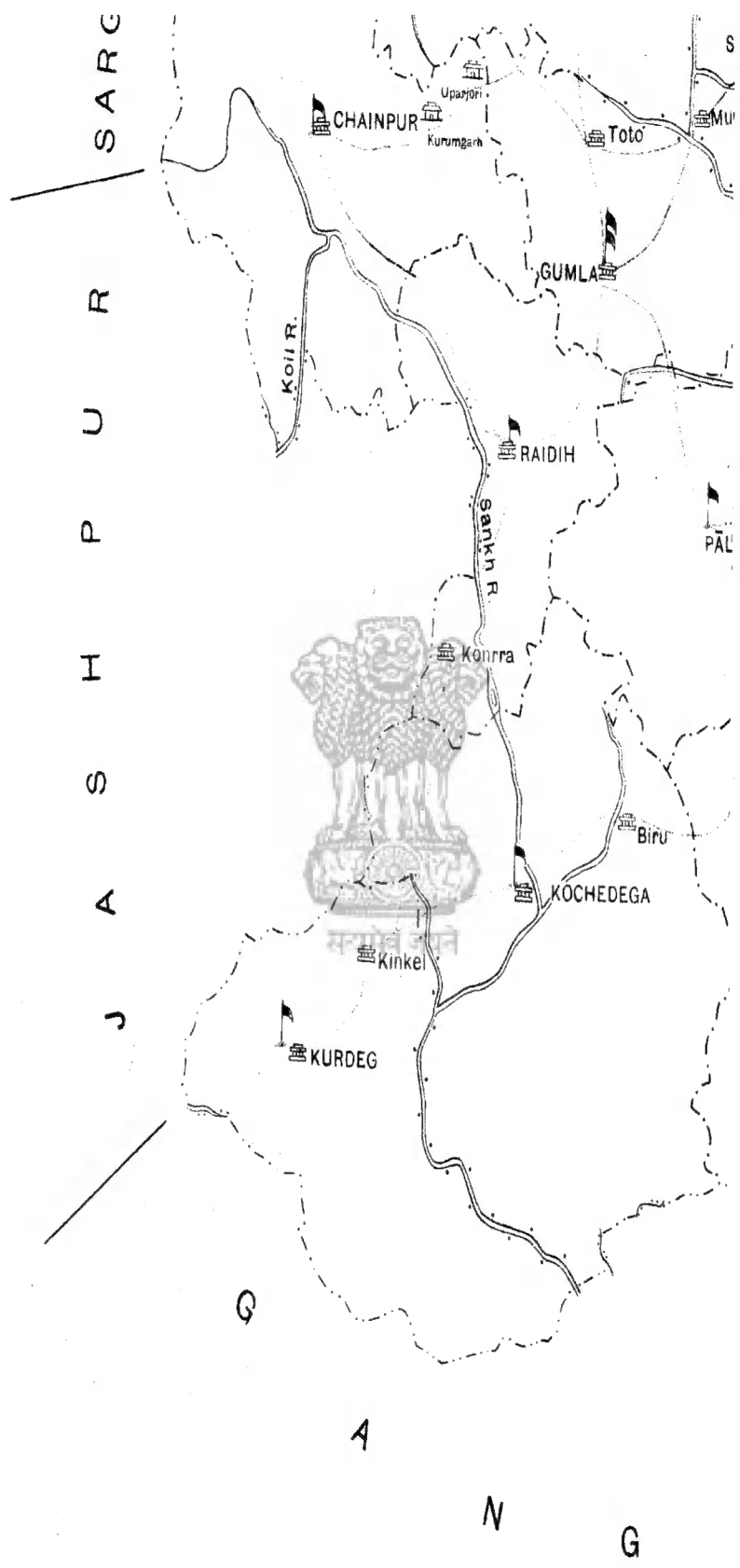


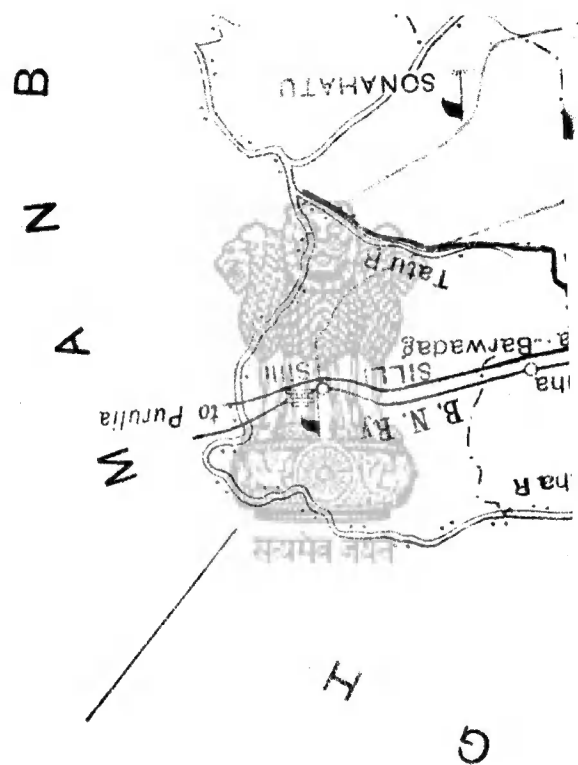


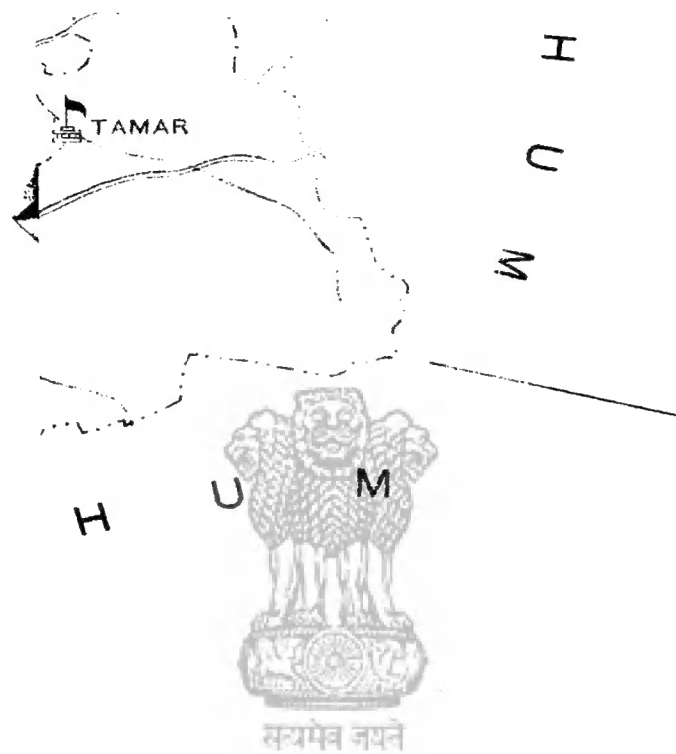
REFER

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- Thana
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- Second Class roads
- Inspection Bungalow.....









NCES.

